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CALGARY • WEEKEND, APRIL 3-5, 2009 metronews.ca

Sports pg 14

Natalya is keeping the Hart family tradition alive



Kwong undergoes successful surgery

CANCER Alberta Lt.-Gov. Norman Kwong underwent surgery on Wednesday to have a cancerous growth removed, the government announced Thursday.



Norman Kwong

Kwong is resting in Calgary after the successful removal of the small growth, according to a statement. "The lieutenant governor and Mrs. Kwong offer heartfelt thanks to the outstanding team of doctors and nurses responsible for his care and are looking forward to resuming a full schedule of events as soon as possible," the release said. He will be taking a break from his duties as lieutenant governor but will still perform constitutional duties.

METRO CALGARY

Movies pg 16



Cyrus' Canada connection

Music pg 21



Thunderheist hit the road

EMS station on life support

First casualties after province assumes control of ambulance services

SHAWN LOGAN
for Metro Calgary

The province's takeover of EMS has left modernization plans for one Calgary station in limbo, while six on the books in Edmonton will also be reassessed.

Alberta Health Services took over ambulance operations provincially on Wednesday and that has left a major expansion for EMS Station No. 6, at 1940 Westmount Blvd. N.W., in doubt.

AHS spokeswoman

Sheila Rougeau said with the transition only a few days old, there are many details that will have to be worked out over time.

"It was a city plan and a city project and as of today it has been cancelled," she said. "We're currently analyzing all capital projects and priorities."

In addition to the stalled Calgary expansion, Rougeau said six facilities that were in Edmonton's 2009-2010 capital plan have also been cancelled while AHS goes over its new assets.

Sharon Purvis, the city's

14 The cost in millions that the modernization, intended to compensate for growth in West Hillhurst and the surrounding areas, had been expected to cost.

director of corporate properties and buildings, said the estimated \$14-million modernization had been in the city's 2006-2008 business plan to account for additional growth in West Hillhurst and the surrounding inner city areas. "Under the city's deploy-

ment model we were looking at densification and other service opportunities," she said.

"We stopped work when the province announced the takeover, but some of the work is transferable regardless of the future use of the site."

Currently the station has three ambulances operating with between six and nine paramedics on staff at any given time.

The provincial acquisition of EMS services included leasing existing facilities from the city, but Rougeau said the future of

all ambulance stations would have to be determined from a regional perspective.

Ald. Druh Farrell said the plans for the northwest facility were cutting edge and she hopes the province will follow through with the work that's already been done.

"If it does go forward in the same fashion I hope they'll follow the plans that came out of some very close work with the community," she said.

"Whether it will be saved or not, we'll have to wait and see."

Calgary Zoo Going hog wild



Five-year-old Red River hog Mvula gave birth to her first litter of five adorable hoglets at the Calgary Zoo. Mvula and her babies have had lots of quiet time to bond and she has proven to be an excellent mother.

Liberals create hotline for budget concerns

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

POLITICS The Alberta Liberals want citizens to have their say in legislature about the April 7 budget.

The Liberals have set up a toll-free phone number for Albertans to call in with their questions, concerns and comments and the best ones will be taken by the party into the budget session, party leader David Swann said.

"We just want to give a voice back to the people of Alberta," Swann said yesterday at the Liberals' Calgary office. "Albertans have the right and responsibility to offer the

government their opinion."

Swann said the party also wants to ensure the budget is more transparent and open to Albertans than it has been.

"A budget is one of the most important jobs of the government," Swann said, adding especially during the tough economy it is important to be accountable.

The party will raise the concerns in the budget debates taking place through April and early May.

Albertans have the option of raising their concerns online at www.budget2009.ca or calling them on the Liberal hotline at 1-888-886-2834.

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Calgary police arrested a suspect in the city who is wanted for a double murder of two brothers in Vancouver last month. Jesus Guifarro, 24, was arrested in a home in the 1700 block of 15th Avenue SE without incident. **METRO CALGARY**

Local



Chefs compete — Stampede-style

The Acreage Lifestyle show is bringing something "brand" new to the Calgary Stampede — the Branding Iron chef competition and wine pairing this Saturday at the Round-Up Centre. Four chefs will compete using Alberta Grown Right. Here products. For more information visit www.calgarystampede.com/als **METRO CALGARY**

Environmentally schizophrenic?

SHAWN LOGAN
for Metro Calgary



Despite leading the way on a number of environmental initiatives, Calgary's green dreams are coming under fire.

Citing the city's poor showing last weekend by marking only a one per cent drop in power usage during Earth Hour, Ald. Brian Pincott called Calgary environ-

mentally schizophrenic, regularly talking the talk of a green city, but seldom walking the walk.

"I think it's a shame Calgary is ahead of the game in so many areas but it seems we don't want to step up when it's inconvenient," he said.

The city has been at the forefront of many environmental initiatives, adopting plans to use only green electricity in city facilities by

2012, running the LRT on wind power and making a major push for water conservation.

At the same time Calgary was among the last major cities in Canada to introduce curbside recycling and on Thursday, a city committee



Ald. Pincott

shot down calls to ban bottled water at city facilities.

Grady Semmens, a spokesman for the Sierra Club said Calgary, has a history of struggling with its environmental conscience, which is often reflected in its conservative voting patterns.

"In some cases doing the right thing for the environment requires hard choices and changing behaviour," he said.

"Calgarians are interested

and aware but it's been difficult to get people to act rather than just say they're going to do things."

Ald. Ric McIver said Calgary is far ahead of the curb in both water and wastewater management and has pushed for many green innovations that are the envy of other municipalities.

"Moaning because we're not perfect yet isn't the answer," he said.

"I think Calgary is doing a

great job environmentally and I don't think for a moment were done."

But Ald. Druhh Farrell said the city is starting to earn international attention for all the wrong reasons.

"We're considered a leader in some areas but in others we're lagging behind by decades," she said.

"I really believe the world is starting to notice Calgary and not always in a good way."

News in brief

SKI INJURY A 14-year-old boy suffered serious head injuries while skiing with his father at Lake Louise on Thursday. Just before 11 a.m. the boy was in the terrain park with his dad when he hit a three-metre jump and was knocked unconscious, park spokesperson John Ross said. The boy was wearing his helmet. He was transported to the Alberta Children's Hospital by STARS. "Our hearts truly go out to the family and we really hope he will be OK," Ross said.

METRO CALGARY

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Stephen Harper touts Canada's influence at the closing of the G20 summit at metronews.ca/canada

Blogs Style columnist Kenya Hunt features a best-dressed list as chosen by Kate Moss.



Police believe two pot busts made in the south end Thursday are connected to this Bridlewood home, the site of a major bust in March.

Police bust pot operation worth \$3.5M

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

Calgary police busted a \$3.5-million marijuana grow-op in the city's south-east they believe is part of a bigger operation.

Members of District 8 Special Duties Team raided homes in the 0-100 block of Copperfield Common SE and the 0-100 block of Somerglen Close SE simul-

taneously on Wednesday, according to Sgt. Steve Kelly. There were 3,000 marijuana plants seized.

"There is a loose connection (between homes in other raids) linked to Asian organized crime groups," he said. "We find information in some of the homes which can lead us on to others."

The homes were definitely linked to another bust on March 4 where po-

lice seized \$2 million in marijuana. Police are now seeking to have all three homes and a vehicle seized under the Victims Restitution and Compensation Payment Act.

Of concern was the fact there was a "school-aged" child living in one of the now condemned homes.

"These homes aren't safe for anyone to be in let alone a child. There was child's clothing and

furniture found in one of the homes."

One of the two people charged has been in Canada for over 15 years while the other was applying for Canadian citizenship, according to Kelly.

Kui Wai Yip, 47, Kui Lun Yip, 50, and Shaoyan Tan, 41, are each charged with possession of marijuana for the purpose, production for the purpose, theft of electricity and theft under.

Parking break would cost \$1.5M: Report

TRANSIT Cutting people who park at C-Train lots a break on weekends and evenings could cost the city \$1.5 million, a city report says.

Last month the city imposed a \$3 per day fee at select park-and-ride lots in an effort to drum up more cash for maintenance and security for the 33 locations around the city.

Hoping to lessen the impact on those who use the system, some aldermen had suggested dropping the fee on weekends and evenings but a report coming to council Monday says that would likely reduce revenues by \$1.5 million.

In order to make up the money, the city would have to slash 44,000 transit hours and 38 full-time positions, the report says.

But Ald. Ric McIver said the scheme to charge transit users makes no sense. "It's difficult to call it a break when people didn't have to pay a fee at all a month ago," he said.

SHAWN LOGAN/FOR METRO CALGARY

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A C-Train driver accidentally drove past the end of the line and into a chain link fence at the Dalhousie Station Thursday morning. The driver stopped when he realized the mistake and none of the passengers were injured. **METRO CALGARY**

Dog poo forces garbage bin closure

PARKS A number of the city's park garbage bins have been closed down until mid-May due to some people dumping dog feces and household garbage items in them, according to the city.

"Unfortunately, there have been a number of incidents where large amounts of garbage have been placed in or around park bins," Todd Reichardt of the Parks department said.

METRO CALGARY

Groups aim to reduce carbon

ENVIRONMENT Two of Alberta's energy companies are pairing up with two proposals that could meet half of the provincial government's targets for carbon reduction.

Enbridge and Epcor announced the joint proposal Thursday, which is being submitted for funding from the province. The two projects are designed to create cleaner electricity.

METRO CALGARY

Student job postings drop

Fewer opportunities available, employment experts say

SHAWN LOGAN
for Metro Calgary

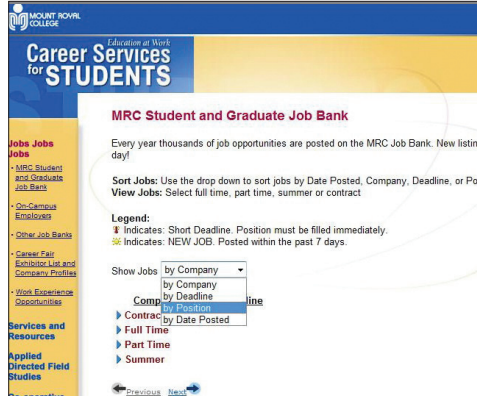
Local post-secondary students hoping to land summer jobs are seeing fewer opportunities than ever, say employment specialists at Calgary institutions.

The faltering economy has seen what was once a glut of job postings drastically narrow, forcing employment-hungry students to vie for a limited pool of opportunities with more competition.

Lise Stransky, a career advisor at the University of Calgary, said the number of job postings per week has dropped from about 500 a year ago to between 300 and 400, a reflection of the economic times.

"We're definitely seeing a drop in job postings," she said.

"There are still jobs, just fewer of them so stu-



Jobs boards, like this online one for Mount Royal, are seeing fewer jobs being posted, leaving some students looking for summer work in a lurch.

dents have to be creative and persevere."

Mount Royal College is seeing a similar trend, said Patsy Valenzuela, supervisor of career education and employment development.

"Last year in January

and March we'd be seeing 50 jobs posted every day and now that's dropped to 20 or 30," she said.

"Over the past few years there were a lot of job vacancies but now we're back to a more balanced model both for students

"Over the past few years there were a lot of job vacancies but now we're back to a more balanced model both for students and employers that are trying to find the right match."

Patsy Valenzuela,
Mount Royal College

and employers that are trying to find the right match."

SAIT and Bow Valley College say they are also seeing fewer postings than in previous years.

Employment advisers are telling worried students to craft resumes to individual employers, focus on unique skills and network outside of the usual online job boards.

City votes down water bottle ban

SHAWN LOGAN
for Metro Calgary

RECYCLING A council committee has put a cork in plans to ban water bottles from city facilities.

In a 7-3 vote, the city's intergovernmental affairs committee Thursday dunked plans to join other Canadian cities already looking to stop selling bottled water in an effort to promote recycling and water conservation.

While the motion will still go before city council later this month, the overwhelming decision makes it unlikely the ban will come into effect.

Ald. Joe Ceci who made the pitch to phase out the plastic bottles as contracts with providers expired said the decision shows council is not ready to be an environmental leader.

"It looks like the opportunity for leadership for a committee of council has been missed," he said.

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Edmonton teen's bid for dream job falls short

JEFF CUMMINGS
Metro Edmonton

AUSTRALIA An Edmonton journalism student's dream to be an island caretaker in Australia was washed away in waves Thursday after she was excluded from an exclusive shortlist.

Linda Hoang, a 19-year-old student at Grant MacEwan, was selected in the Greatest Job In The World's top 50 list among the hundreds of thousands that applied.

But she didn't make it in the contest's top 16 — something that was disappointing, but it was a good learning experience, said Hoang.

The final 16 candidates will be flying to Australia's Hamilton Island from May 3-6 for the contest's final selection process.

"It's been a really great experience," said Hoang. "I definitely thought that I could win and I thought that I could go to Australia



Nineteen-year-old Linda Hoang did not make the top 16 for the "Greatest Job In the World" contest.

for the interviews and everything.

"But being in the top 50 in the world is pretty good."

Hoang said she enjoyed her time during the entire contest and it gave her experience in her studies after talking with so much media and blogging.

Tourism Queensland is offering up the special six-month position, which includes a \$150,000 AUD salary and a lavish three-bedroom home that offers stunning views of Whitsunday Island.

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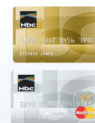
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Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Danny Williams is labelling "historic" an agreement to sell electricity directly through Quebec and into the North American power grid. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada



Broadcaster tearful in court

A Toronto broadcaster cried in a St. John's, N.L., courtroom Thursday as she appeared on charges related to an air rage incident aboard an Air Canada flight. Colleen Walsh, 48, who most recently hosted the architecture and history show Structures on Rogers TV, was visibly upset as she appeared in provincial court on charges of endangering the safety of an aircraft, unlawful obstruction and using obscene language. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

'Deep concerns' over law: Officials

WOMEN'S RIGHTS Canadian officials called in Afghanistan's ambassador to express "deep concern" over a law that would make it illegal for Shiite women to refuse to have sex with their husbands.

Omar Samad, the Afghan ambassador, was summoned to hear Canadian fears that the law would "severely restrict the rights" of women. Afghanistan's ambassador to Canada defended his country's progress.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Suncor hit with fines

POLLUTION An Alberta court slapped Suncor Energy Inc. and a contractor it hired with more than \$1 million in fines Thursday for environmental infractions at the company's northern Alberta oilsands operations.

Suncor, Canada's No. 2 oilsands producer, will pay \$675,000 for failing to install pollution control equipment at its Firebag steam-driven oilsands operation near Fort McMurray, Alberta, and then keeping that information

from provincial environmental authorities.

The violation, which dates back to 2006 and 2007, resulted in hydrogen sulfide, which can be deadly in high enough concentrations, being released into the atmosphere, the Alberta environment ministry said.

The company had committed to installing the equipment in its application to develop the Firebag project, where steam is pumped into the ground to loosen bitumen. **REUTERS**

Worst is over: Harper

\$40B planned for economy as G20 ends

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, sounding one of his cheeriest notes since the economic crisis began, said Thursday he believes the worst financial instability is over and he expects to see more positive news in coming months.

The comments were notably upbeat, given Harper has been warning for months the economy would keep deteriorating amid rising joblessness and slumping production.

"The worst aspects of instability, I do believe, are behind us. Stability is different from recovery. We're seeing a significant degree of stability," he told reporters at the conclusion of this week's G20 summit



Prime Minister Stephen Harper speaks at a news conference after the G20 summit at the ExCel centre, in east London, Ottawa plans to spend \$40 billion to kick-start the economy.

in London.

"I'm optimistic that, as these measures kick in, as fiscal and economic measures kick in, we'll begin to see more positive news,"

he said.

The Canadian government plans to spend \$40 billion over the next two years to kick-start the economy. **REUTERS**

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News in brief

LABOUR Ottawa should play a role in restructuring talks between AbitibiBowater and its lenders and help prevent the loss of up to 12,000 Canadian jobs, the company's main union said Thursday. **REUTERS**



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Italian man allegedly decapitated wife for online chatting
A man charged with slicing off his wife's head with a boxcutter told police on the island of Sicily he was jealous because she spent so much time sending messages on the Internet, Italian media reported yesterday. He allegedly told police he was convinced that his wife was cheating on him with an Internet lover. **REUTERS**

World



Wife ditches Mr. Clean

A German woman has divorced her husband because she was fed up with him cleaning all the time. German media reported the wife got through 15 years of marriage putting up with the man's penchant for doing household chores, tidying up and rearranging the furniture. But she ran out of patience when he knocked down and rebuilt a wall at their home when it got dirty, a judge said yesterday. **REUTERS**

N. Korea could launch missile Saturday: U.S.

ARMS North Korea's missile preparations suggest Pyongyang could launch a satellite into space as early as Saturday, an American defence official said Thursday as the U.S. military monitored the situation.

"They're doing everything consistent with the launch of a space vehicle."

U.S. defence official

At the United Nations, Japan's UN ambassador, Yukio Takasu, said his country would request an emergency meeting of the Security Council to discuss a possible response if North Korea launched the long-range missile in the coming days.

The United States and others have threatened

North Korea with punishment if they launch the long-range missile.

"They're doing everything consistent with the launch of a space vehicle on April 4," the U.S. defence official told Reuters on condition of anonymity.

Pyongyang has said it will send a satellite into orbit between April 4 and 8, but the United States, South Korea and Japan say the launch is a disguised test of the long-range Taepodong-2 missile, which is designed to carry a warhead to U.S. territory. **REUTERS**

G20 seals \$1.1 trillion in aid

Measures expected to boost output by 4% by end of 2010

World leaders clinched a \$1.1-trillion US deal Thursday to combat the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression and said financial rules would be tightened to stop it happening again.

U.S. President Barack Obama declared it a "turning point" for the world economy, even though he had won no promises for more government spending to combat a deepening world recession.

G20 leaders from the top developed and emerging economies ticked off a raft of actions on politically sensitive topics at the summit in London, such as new rules on bonuses and imposing oversight on large hedge funds and on credit-rating agencies.

The \$1.1 trillion available through the International Monetary Fund and



U.S. President Barack Obama laughs with Italy's Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, centre, and Russia's President Dmitry Medvedev as they pose for a photo at the London G20 summit yesterday. **REUTERS**

other institutions included \$250 billion of IMF reserve units. In addition, the IMF would see its own resources tripled, with up to \$500 billion of new funds. Much of that is likely to

go to struggling poorer countries, notably in eastern Europe.

The summit also agreed on a trade finance package worth \$250 billion over two years to support global

trade flows.

The G20 said the measures taken would raise world output by four per cent by the end of next year. **REUTERS**

MORE G20 COVERAGE, PG 11

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News in brief

BUDGET Both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives approved the fiscal 2010 budget plans on Thursday, but will

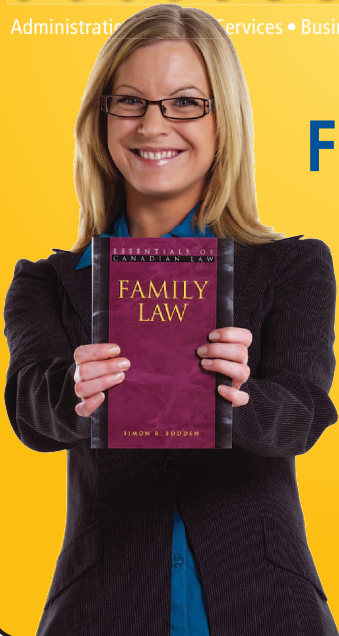
have to work out differences between their respective versions of the budget, which is worth trillions of dollars.

PROTEST A few hundred protesters clashed with police in the French city of Strasbourg Thursday on the eve of a NATO

summit that is expected to draw thousands of demonstrators onto the streets. **REUTERS**

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The dog ate my Russian tea party

While Prime Minister Vladimir Putin was discussing ways to help the local food industry, his pet dog gobbled up delicacies prepared for leaders of his United Russia party. **REUTERS**

Georgia has not learned, Russia says

Russia accused Georgia Thursday of planning revenge against pro-Moscow separatists and warned the United States against arms sales to Tbilisi.

Georgia's U.S.-trained armed forces were routed by Russian troops during a five-day war last August when Tbilisi tried to retake its rebel South Ossetia region by force.

Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili said Monday the threat from Russia remained high and that Georgia needed stronger armed forces.

"Such comments by Mr. Saakashvili ... only prove the self-evident — Tbilisi has not learnt the lesson from last year's events in the Caucasus and probably cherishes plans of revenge," Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Andrei Nesterenko told a

news briefing.

Russia has repeatedly accused the U.S. and Ukraine of supplying arms to Georgia.

"As for foreign assistance to Tbilisi to restore (Georgia's) military potential, it cannot be viewed otherwise than as encouragement of the aggressor," Nesterenko added.

"We expect that the United States, Ukraine and other nations considering themselves to be responsible international players will take this into account in their policy," he said.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and U.S. President Barack Obama held their first face-to-face meeting in London Wednesday, agreeing to hit the restart button to thaw the two nuclear nations' chilly relations.

REUTERS

Indonesia Yoga and politics



Petra Odebrecht speaks at a yoga studio on Indonesia's resort island of Bali. She is the first German-born woman running for Indonesia's parliament. The country, Southeast Asia's biggest economy and largest democracy, holds parliamentary elections April 9, followed by presidential elections July 8.

News in brief

DISEASE Polio has spread out of Nigeria to re-infect six neighbouring countries that had eliminated the disease, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported. The new outbreaks set back a bid to wipe out the water-borne disease globally, the CDC said in its weekly report.

PARIS At the International Oil Summit, OPEC said oil was not to blame for climate change and consuming countries should pay to fight the threat, while the CEO of Royal Dutch Shell said drivers could help by not buying Hummer sports utility vehicles.

REUTERS

Congo civilians return home following rebellion

KINSHASA Some 300,000 people in eastern Congo have returned home due to a local rebellion dying out, but at least 150,000 more have fled this year, mostly from Rwandan Hutu rebels, a United Nations aid agency said Thursday. Democratic Republic of Congo allowed thousands of Rwandan soldiers into its violence-ravaged North Kivu province in January to take on the Rwandan Hutu rebel Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) based there.

The operation marked a major advance in relations

between the two countries, former enemies during a 1998-2003 war, and was touted as a success by government authorities in both Kinshasa and Kigali when the Rwandan withdrew in late February.

The joint operations helped neutralize Congo's own North Kivu-based Tutsi rebels and the UN's humanitarian co-ordination agency, OCHA, said on Thursday that the resulting improvement in security had allowed the 300,000 internal refugees to return.

REUTERS

Palestinian factions suspend discussions without agreement

CAIRO Rival Palestinian groups Hamas and Fatah Thursday adjourned Egyptian-mediated reconciliation talks until later this month without reaching agreement, Palestinian officials said.

A Palestinian official confirmed the talks would resume April 26.

"There were new ideas addressed that will need

more consultations within the institutions of each party," Hamas leader Mahmoud al-Zahar told Reuters.

Differences remained over the political agenda for any unity government. A major sticking point was whether a new government would back peace deals signed between Israel and the PLO. **REUTERS**

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Washing away sin of creation

Marketplace

Erica Johnson

metronews.ca/johnson

Ever noticed how there seems to be a product for everything — even stuff you didn't realize you needed? Five years ago, no one walked around with teeth so white they could glow in the dark. Today, "whitening toothpaste" is everywhere, along with "whitening strips," "laser bleaching" and numerous other products that promise to brighten those pearly not-so-whites.

And how about bottled water? The water's fine to drink out of almost every

tap in Canada, but companies have convinced us we need to pay for it. That somehow their product is better than a resource that's actually free! Creating a need and then offering up a product to meet that need is a money-grabber that's been around since the dawn of time. So at Marketplace, we call that marketing tactic "The Sin of Creation."

And nowhere has this marketing technique been used more than with cleansers — dishwashing liquids, shampoos, body scrubs, detergents and plain ol' soap. Now, all those products have morphed into a multimillion-dollar industry for all things



On the web

• Tips on how to avoid marketing plays involving soap.

"antibacterial." Seems the old-fashioned cleansers — that are usually cheaper — are no longer good enough. But do you really need to spend money on new products that can cost more?

To find out, we put anti-bacterial soap to the test against plain old-fashioned soap. First, we tracked down some school children and swabbed their grimy hands. Then, half the kids washed with anti-bacterial soap, the other half with the regular soap. We swabbed their hands a second time and sent the samples to the lab.

Our test found no

benefit to using anti-bacterial soap. That's no surprise to Rolf Halden, an environmental scientist at Johns Hopkins University. According to Halden, "there is very limited benefit, according to scientific studies."

And not only that, many health agencies are warning against using anti-bacterial products, because they could lead to dangerous bacterial resistance. But you won't see that listed on any label.

So next time you feel the sudden urge to buy a "new and improved" product, reflect a moment before you reach into your wallet. Maybe you can avoid becoming a target of "The Sin of Creation."

Erica Johnson is a journalist and co-host of CBC News: Marketplace, Canada's award-winning consumer affairs show. CBC News: Marketplace airs each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. on CBC Television.



Worth mentioning

Small islands urge deep CO2 cuts, fear rising seas

ENVIRONMENT Small island states have sharpened their calls for the rich to make deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, saying low-lying atolls risk being washed off the map by rising ocean levels.

An alliance of 43 island states, backed by more than a dozen nations in Africa and Latin America, urged developed countries at UN climate talks in Bonn Thursday to cut greenhouse emissions by "at least 45 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020."

"The scientific findings about climate change are frightening," M.J. Mace, a legal adviser to the Federated States of Micronesia who presented the demands at the meeting, told Reuters.

A group of leading researchers last month projected a quickening pace of sea level rise this century, of about a metre, or roughly double the projections by the UN Climate Panel in 2007.

The small islands had called at a UN climate meeting in Poznan, Poland, in December 2008 for cuts of "more than 40 per cent" in industrialized nations' emissions by 2020.

"Why would small island states be happy with a level of ambition that is going to destroy their countries?" Mace said. The highest points of some Pacific, Caribbean or Indian Ocean states are only a few metres above sea level.

REUTERS

Views

City must be affordable for the citizens

UrbanCompass

Janice Paskey

metronews.ca/paskey

Take one look at donors to our mayor's last campaign and you see his awkward challenge.

The list is richly populated with developers and architects. Indeed, Dave Bronconnier hit his campaign limit and had a \$316,000 surplus.

Now he must re-negotiate city agreements with developers. Contracts expire next year, but talks are underway.

The agreement works like this. The city gives developers permits. Developers make handsome profits, but agree to provide city infrastructure like sidewalks, sewer lines, roads, and even contribute to libraries and

recreation centres.

Developers want an infrastructure break. "We are seeing a drastic fall off in new community development," says Mike Flynn, executive director of the Urban Development Institute which represents home builders, "Access to capital is severely restricted, if it's there at all."

The UDI is also none too happy with the city's new PlanIt document calling for more density, and favouring multi-family homes. UDI argues people want to buy single-family homes. "What the general public doesn't understand is that development takes enormous risk. There's a perception that developers are rolling around in cash."

It will be a test of the mayor's ability to manage his relationships with his construction supporters, and re-engineer the city toward housing density.

Mayor Bronconnier is showing strength in saying

"Mayor Bronconnier is showing strength in saying that it makes sense for growth to pay for itself."

that it makes sense for growth to pay for itself.

Where will the developer capital come from?

In my community alone, we have two projects on hold. Residents received notice that no developer would build anything at Lion's Park LRT, a so-called transit oriented development site. Secondly, the city proceeded with community consultation for a new EMS station on Memorial Drive thinking it had the province's full approval and cash — but that's now on hold, too.

Whether the mayor holds the line remains to be seen. The city can help developers with infrastructure costs if there's a good social cause to do so. Multi-family developments are getting a lot of permit en-

couragement. Developers need to adapt and find new ways of green building that consumers want.

But recognize the cost of housing will rise if supply is restricted and inner city cost is high. We'll see the residential strength of the Airdries, Okotoks, and Cochrane grow.

Witness the situation on the island of Montreal where thousands live in nice communities off-island and commute in over bridges, use city services, and leave. There's always discussion about how to tax them.

Let's make sure we get a city that the average person can afford.

Janice Paskey teaches journalism at Mount Royal College, serves on her community association board and is a proud mom to two boys; calgaryletters@metronews.ca.



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Disney buys Kaboose websites for \$18.4 million

Disney has bought the U.S. assets of Canadian company Kaboose, paying about \$18.4 million for sites like Kaboose.com, Babyzone.com, AmazingMoms.com. **REUTERS**

11

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Global stocks surge

Investors see G20 moves reviving economies

Global stocks and oil surged Thursday on optimism over efforts by world leaders meeting in London to revive global growth and on a change in U.S. accounting rules that will help ailing banks whose troubles triggered the worst economic crisis

in decades.

Oil prices rocketed up more than eight per cent above \$52 US a barrel on hopes that demand will rebound after world leaders at the G20 summit agreed to pump an additional \$1.1 trillion into the global economy.

The upbeat tone at the G20 summit boosted the risk appetite for many asset classes by raising hopes among investors that a co-ordinated effort would reverse the shrinking of the global economy for the first time since the Second World War. **REUTERS**

Moss Model store opening



Model Kate Moss poses with British retailer Sir Philip Green at the opening of the first Topshop and Topman clothing store in New York Thursday. Britain's trendy mass-market fashion retailer could eventually have about 15 stores in the United States, said its billionaire owner Green.

OECD targets tax havens

SUMMIT The OECD has placed Costa Rica, Malaysia, the Philippines and Uruguay on its blacklist of non-co-operative tax havens, as part of efforts agreed at the Group of 20 summit to crack down on tax evasion.

A separate "gray list" of countries that have agreed to improve transparency standards, but have not yet signed the necessary international accords included Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Singapore and Chile as well as the Cayman Islands, Liechtenstein and Monaco.

China is on a third "white list" of jurisdictions that have substantially implemented the internationally agreed tax standards. But the OECD said China's two Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macao had so far only "committed to implement" the tax standard. **REUTERS**

Bombardier cuts more jobs as demand for jets plunges

AEROSPACE Bombardier Inc. reported a better-than-expected quarterly profit Thursday, but said it would cut another 3,000 jobs and scale back production of its business jets this year due to dwindling orders.

The job cuts will take place at facilities in Canada, the United States, Mexico and Northern Ireland by the end of 2009, it said.

The job losses are in ad-

dition to the 1,360 layoffs announced Feb. 5. Demand for business planes deteriorated rapidly in the last six months of 2008 and the company now expects to deliver 25 per cent fewer business planes this year.

Bombardier said net income rose 42 per cent to \$309 million in the fourth quarter from \$218 million a year earlier. **REUTERS**

Watchdog takes fizz out of Coke

ADVERTISING Claims Coke will not make children fat or rot their teeth have landed Coca-Cola in trouble with Australia's consumer watchdog, which Thursday ordered the soft drink company to correct its advertising.

Coca-Cola South Pacific last year ran advertising claiming Coke was "kiddy-safe." **REUTERS**

In brief

AUTOS Chrysler Canada extended its production shut-down to a second Ontario plant Thursday as a parts shortage forced it to idle its Brampton plant in addition to its minivan plant in Windsor.

TOS ConocoPhillips said its first-quarter earnings would be hurt by weakness in natural gas prices and its marketing margins would be significantly lower. **REUTERS**

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Luxury furs defy financial crisis with solid demand

Prices of mink pelt for luxury furs at the world's largest pelt auction in Copenhagen, Denmark, are holding their ground this week on strong demand with a record number of buyers from China attending despite the economic crisis. **REUTERS**

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G20 actions drive TSX rally

Stock index rises 131 points for highest close since January

Toronto's main stock index shot to its highest close in nearly three months Thursday on hopes that actions agreed to at the G20 summit in London would help restore global growth.

News out of the G20, which included a trillion-dollar deal to help combat the global financial crisis, sparked a surge in oil prices and opened the door for the resource-heavy TSX to record its third straight day of gains.

The S&P/TSX composite index rose 131.32 points, or 1.47 per cent, to close at

"There's a little bit of confidence coming back into the market so people are putting some cash to work."

Irwin Michael, ABC Funds portfolio manager

9,073.14, its highest closing level since Jan. 9.

Shares of Canadian Natural Resources rallied five per cent to close at \$53.38, while Suncor Energy rose five per cent to \$30.

"There's a little bit of confidence coming back into the market so people are putting some cash to work, but they are not sure

if it's a short-covering rally or if it's the real McCoy," said Irwin Michael, portfolio manager at ABC Funds.

"So certain investors are giving the market the benefit of the doubt and they are putting their money to work."

Another key driver behind the rally was changes to U.S. bank accounting

rules, which are expected to help the financial system stabilize in the short term and help balance sheets of financial companies.

Shares of insurer Manulife Financial, which spearheaded the latest TSX rally, rose 10.7 per cent to \$16.69, while Royal Bank of Canada rose 0.85 per cent to \$37.97.

Nine of the TSX's 10 main sectors ended higher, led by a 4.36 per cent advance by the energy sector. The financials index rallied 2.5 per cent.

REUTERS

AIG ex-CEO under fire from U.S. Congress

WASHINGTON Maurice Greenberg, the former chief executive of American International Group Inc. and creator of the doomed unit whose investments triggered its downfall, came under fire from U.S. lawmakers Thursday who questioned his claims of ignorance.

"Crumbling of AIG began on your watch," Darrell Issa, the ranking Republican on the House oversight and government reform panel, said in opening remarks, noting that Greenberg's credibility was compromised amid various ongoing government probes.

Greenberg, who was the insurer's CEO for more than 35 years and created the financial products unit that traded in credit default swaps, rejected claims that he had a role in ramping up the risky credit fault swaps business.

"When I left the company, it was healthy," he said.

REUTERS

Banking Dividend raise unlikely

TD Canada Trust



A Toronto-Dominion Canada Trust bank sign is seen as people walk by in Toronto on Thursday. TD Bank chief executive Ed Clark said on Thursday that Canada's No. 2 bank was unlikely to raise dividends in 2009 given pressure on its earnings from a sliding economy.

Disney opposes restrictive web television plans

CABLE Walt Disney Co. chief executive Bob Iger warned the cable TV industry not to alienate consumers by restricting cable programming on the web to paying TV subscribers.

Cable executives have spoken about extending popular cable programming to the web to paying subscribers as a way to retain cable TV customers who might prefer to watch programs online at their convenience.

Iger agreed with cable industry concerns that in the absence of web alternatives for consumers, piracy could develop.

REUTERS

In brief

REPAYMENT Bank of America Corp.'s chief executive said it may take several quarters for the bank to repay its \$45 billion US of federal bailout money.

PROFIT Monsanto Co., the world's biggest seed company, posted a better-than-expected profit Thursday as revenue increased in its key corn and soybean seed businesses. **REUTERS**

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Lucas undergoes cancer surgery

Portland Trail Blazers assistant coach Maurice Lucas has undergone surgery for bladder cancer.

The team said he had surgery on Tuesday and will be away six-to-eight weeks recovering. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Sports



"It's always been in the middle of the pack. Had I been with the Yankees or the Dodgers, I think it would have been No. 1."

Former Blue Jays slugger Joe Carter, on how his championship-winning home run in Game 6 of the 1993 World Series never appears atop U.S. lists of baseball moments. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONews.CA

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MOUNT NORQUAY 0 cm new snow, 85 cm base at top with all lifts and 26 runs open

CASTLE MOUNTAIN 0 cm new snow, mountain base: 140 cm; 49 runs are open

FERNIE 15 cm new snow, 251 cm base, 9 lifts, 70 runs available

KICKING HORSE 0 cm new, 170 cm base, 102 of 106 trails open, 4 of 5 lifts running

CANADA OLYMPIC PARK No new snow, 61 cm base, all 6 lifts open, 10 runs open

NAKISKA 22 cm new snow, 139 cm base, 5 of 6 lifts open, 31 of 31 runs open

Flames end losing skid

NHL RESULT**Flames 2 Stars 1**

LAURENCE HEINEN
for Metro Calgary

THE SKINNY: The Flames snapped a three-game losing streak on the road by edging the Stars in a tight-checking affair.

THE DEFLECTION: Craig Conroy got his stick on a Dion Phaneuf point shot to tip it past Dallas goalie Marty Turco at 12:21 of the second period.

THE QUOTE: "I thought I touched it, but I wasn't sure," Craig Conroy said during a



Calgary Flames goaltender Miikka Kiprusoff stops a shot by the Dallas Stars on Thursday in Dallas.

Flames Pay-Per-View interview while watching a replay of the game-winning goal.

THE SNIPER: After going without a goal for six straight games, Jarome Iginla scored for the second straight game when he snapped a pass from Jordan Leopold past Turco in the opening frame. With 33 goals, the Calgary captain now trails Michael Cammalleri by

three for the team lead in that department.

GOING POSTAL: Shortly after Fabian Brunnstrum put the Stars up 1-0 in the first period, Todd Bertuzzi had a great chance to score on a breakaway, but backhanded a shot off the crossbar

THE MASH UNIT: With Cory Sarich already out of the line-

up after taking a hard shot by San Jose's Joe Thornton off his ankle during Monday's 2-1 loss to the Sharks, the Flames received more bad news on the injury front when Robyn Regehr left the game in the second period and didn't return.

THE SECOND QUOTE: "It was tough to see (Regehr) go out," Iginla told reporters after the game. "He's such a big part of our team."

THE NEXT GAME: The Flames don't have much time to rest as they'll face the Minnesota Wild Friday (6 p.m., Rogers Sportsnet, Fan 960) at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minn. Calgary will be looking to improve upon its record of 2-8-1 in the second game of contests on back-to-back nights this season.

Cutler gets wish, traded to Bears

NFL The Denver Broncos have traded disgruntled quarterback Jay Cutler to the Chicago Bears. ESPN said the Broncos would receive two first-round draft picks, including this year's eighth selection, a third-round and quarterback Kyle Orton for Cutler and a fifth-round draft pick this year. Cutler had asked for a trade last month.

METRO NEWS SERVICES**SCOREBOARD****NHL THURSDAY'S RESULTS**

CALGARY: 2 Dallas 1
Montreal 5 N.Y. Islanders 1
Boston 2 Ottawa 1
Carolina 4 N.Y. Rangers 2
St. Louis 5 Detroit 4
San Jose 2 Edmonton 1
Los Angeles at Phoenix
Anaheim at Vancouver

NBA THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Philadelphia 105 Milwaukee 95
Washington 109 Cleveland 101
Utah at Denver

NHL Canucks battle Ducks

Vancouver Canuck Steve Bernier shoots on Anaheim Ducks goalie Jonas Hiller during first period NHL hockey action in Vancouver Thursday. The Canucks scored on the play with Bernier getting an assist. For results of the game, visit metronews.ca/sports.

Sports in brief

NHL Colorado Avalanche forward Ryan Smyth will miss the remainder of the season after suffering a fractured right hand Wednesday. Smyth is the team's leading scorer with 26 goals and 59 points this season.

NHL Tampa Bay Lightning centre Vincent Lecavalier will have right wrist surgery today, effectively ending his season. Dr. A. Lee Osterman will perform the surgery at the Philadelphia Hand Center, having already repaired damaged

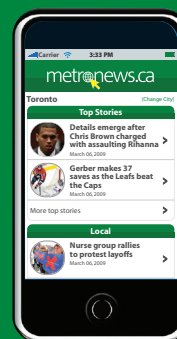
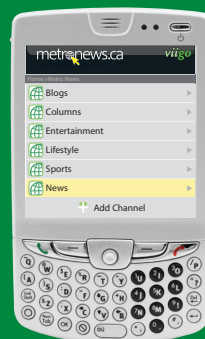
cartilage in Lecavalier's left wrist during the summer of 2007. Lecavalier was originally slated to undergo right wrist surgery last summer, but a shoulder injury pushed back the procedure.

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KEEPING YOU UPDATED

Canada will open play at the Gold Cup soccer tournament July 3 against Jamaica in Los Angeles. The Canadian men will continue their Group A schedule with games against El Salvador on July 7 at Crew Stadium in Columbus, Ohio, and Costa Rica on July 10 in Miami. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Carrying on her father's legacy

The Anvil's daughter ready to bring some Calgary flavour to Wrestlemania 25

PERRY LEFKO
for Metro Canada



Natalie Neidhart is looking forward to making wrestling history.

Neidhart, who is known in the World Wrestling Entertainment as Natalya, will participate Sunday in Houston in Wrestlemania 25 in a 25 Divas Battle Royal.

It's a dream come true for the 26-year-old Calgary native, who is the daughter of Jim (The Anvil) Neidhart, who with brother-in-law Bret (The Hitman) Hart wrestled as the high-profile tag-team duo The Hart Foundation in the mid-'80s and early '90s.

At Wrestlemania 2, Neidhart and Hart wrestled individually in a Battle

Royal and were the last ones eliminated by the winner, Andre The Giant.

Natalie is the only third-generation diva in wrestling. She is also the only female wrestler from the Hart clan — considered the first family of wrestling — to actually compete in the ring. She learned to wrestle in the home of her maternal grandfather, the late Stu Hart, who raised eight sons, all of whom wrestled, and four daughters, all of whom married wrestlers. Two years ago, the WWE signed Natalie to a contract.

"This is a huge, huge honour for me to be a part of this, but it's actually history in the making itself, and being from Canada and representing my family

and blazing my own trail, it's fascinating," she said in a telephone interview.

"I may sound like I'm tooting my own horn, but sometimes I can't even believe that I'm doing it myself. There's a lot of depth to it — the fact I work for the WWE and the fact I'm representing my family and that we have such a long, long history with World Wrestling Entertainment — and that I get to be a part of this amazing, amazing

event in such a cool match with divas from the past and present it's surreal.

"There's a lot of good that can come from it."

Natalie has

started to embrace the colour pink as part of her look and persona, a throwback to the days of the Hart Foundation.

"I just felt pink was right for me," she said. "I was trying to do other colours, but it's like going back to my roots by going back to the pink and black. It suits me and it fits, and when you're the most comfortable in what you wear when you go into the ring, you feel at ease."

"I feel like a little part of me always wants to pay homage to my family. It may sound arrogant, but I believe my family was the

"I get to be a part of this amazing, amazing event in such a cool match with divas from the past and present."

Natalie Neidhart

best in the world and I feel like I'm carrying on a piece of their legacy and I think about that all the time.

"Every time I step foot in the ring, I think about my family, and to wear a bit of the pink I'm kind of nodding my head to them."

"For me it's a huge honour, but I feel like Natalya has her own shade of pink and I'm kind of ready to let it run wild."

Jays unlikely to contend in baseball's best division

The Toronto Blue Jays have produced three straight winning seasons for the first time in almost a decade.

Unfortunately for the Jays, they just happen to play in the best division in all of baseball. Not only do they have to contend with the Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees, but now the once-perennial doormat Tampa Bay Rays have emerged as a powerhouse in the East.

After John Gibbons was fired on June 20, former skipper Cito Gaston, who guided the franchise to its two World Series titles in 1992 and 1993, was brought in to change the dynamic of the clubhouse. It worked, as Gaston led the team to a 51-37 finish and its 86-76 overall mark was good enough for fourth place in the powerful AL East.

Roy Halladay continues to anchor a pitching staff that led the majors with a 3.94

Toronto Blue Jays 2009 Preview

earned-run average. A big part of that staff is gone, though, as 18-game winner A.J. Burnett bolted for a big money contract from the Yankees.

Actually, this season, after Halladay there is just not much there. However, his time north of the border could be coming to a close as well, as he has just two years remaining on a cheap contract. With the team not expected to contend this season, now may be the time general manager J.P. Ricciardi pulls the trigger and starts to go in a different direction.

Offensively, the team will again be led by outfielders Vernon Wells and Alex Rios, while the organization is hoping top prospects Travis Snider and Adam Lind are ready to be full-time players.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Gaston slams Clemens

Before any of Roger Clemens' recent travails, Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston considered Clemens a hall-of-fame jerk.

Gaston's feelings surfaced yesterday when asked what he thought of a new book, *The Rocket That Fell to Earth*, in which author Jeff Pearlman hints that Clemens, who arrived in Toronto the same season the Jays replaced Gaston as manager, influenced the club to fire Gaston in 1997.

"He's an a-hole himself. A complete a-hole," Gaston said with a chuckle.

For the next five minutes, Gaston, who is starting his first full season in his second stint as Jays' manager, detailed the strained relationship with the star pitcher, who had signed with the Jays before the 1997 season.



"One of us would have had an ass whuppin' that day."

Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston on how Roger Clemens wouldn't confront him

Clemens arrived in Toronto after burning out with the Boston Red Sox. The move to Toronto seemed to rejuvenate him.

Away from Boston for the first time in his pro career, Clemens went 21-7 in 1997. His ERA plummeted to 2.05 from 3.63, and his 292 strikeouts were a career high for a pitcher already known for his power, and that season he won his fourth Cy Young award.

Clemens' former personal trainer Brian McNamee has alleged repeatedly that Clemens began taking steroids while with the Jays, and the drug use led

to his two stellar seasons here.

The Jays asked Gaston to resign with five games remaining in the 1997 season. Pearlman's book charges that Clemens persuaded the team to hire Tim Lincecum, who lost his job after one season after it was revealed that he lied about having fought in the Vietnam War.

"He wouldn't (confront me)," Gaston said.

"One of us would have had an ass whuppin' that day. It might have been me, but he still would have known I was there."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New look for Mariners

Seattle Mariners

2009 Preview

The Seattle Mariners will have a new look in 2009. Well, kind of.

Don Wakamatsu begins his first year in the dugout, inheriting a team that lost 101 games in 2008. However, general manager Jack Zduriencik continued to make wholesale changes this off-season, as he dealt closer J.J. Putz and let outfielder Raul Ibanez leave as a free agent.

Before the end of last season, Zduriencik had rid the team of first baseman Richie Sexson and designated hitter Jose Vidro.

So, Wakamatsu will have four new starters in a lineup that produced only 671 runs a year ago. Only four players hit 10 or more home runs for the Mariners last season and two of them were Sexson and Ibanez.

But one of the new faces is not that unfamiliar to fans who frequent Safeco Field, as Ken Griffey Jr. returns. An 11-time all-star, Griffey spent the first 11 years of his 20-year career in Seattle, finishing in the top 10 in the MVP voting in seven of his years with the Mariners.

Griffey, though, is not the player he was when he left in 1999. Last year, he recorded a career-low .249 batting average, with 18 homers and 71 RBIs in 143 games with the Cincinnati Reds and Chicago White Sox.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Despite history, Cubs still have potential

Chicago Cubs

2009 Preview

Chicago's shocking sweep at the hands of the Los Angeles Dodgers in October's NL Division Series took its place in the club's dubious history.

While it's easy to be skeptical about the chances of a team that last won a world championship 101 years ago and last played in a World Series in 1945, it's just as hard to ignore the poten-

tial the 2009 Cubs possess. A fearsome lineup that easily led the NL in runs scored a year ago was made even more formidable with the signing of right fielder Milton Bradley. The starting pitching cast of Carlos Zambrano, Ted Lilly and B.C.'s Ryan Dempster and Rich Harden is as good a foursome as there is in the game right now, provided the oft-injured Harden can make it through the season pain free.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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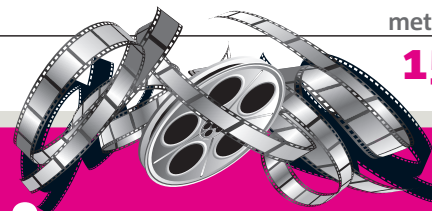
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Movies & Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

A child star is born

Pg 16



According to Billy Ray Cyrus, there would be no Hannah Montana without Canada. While watching a theatre show in Toronto, Miley Cyrus leaned over to her father and said, "This is what I want to do." Years later, Hannah Montana: The Movie is born.

movies

Pg 18



Adventureland a warm coming-of-age comedy.

music

Pg 22



Open call for your top ten picks in Canadian music.

entertainment

Pg 23



Genie Awards show puts national talent on parade.

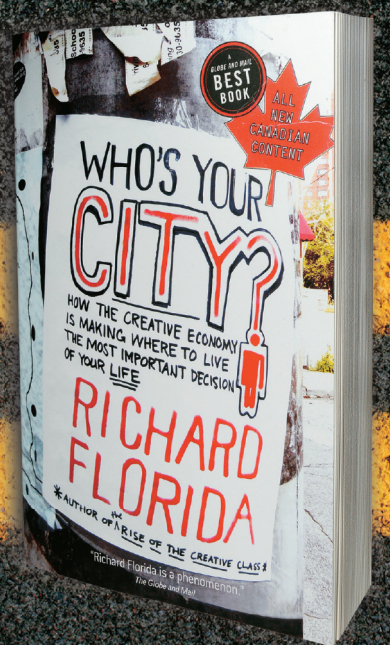
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VINTAGE CANADA



Hannah Montana: The Movie director Peter Chelsom has compared Miley Cyrus to screen legend Judy Garland. The director claims he was "blown away" the first time he saw the teen superstar. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Movies

★★★★★ A CLASSIC; ★★★★★ EXCELLENT; ★★★ GOOD; ★★ FAIR; ★ POOR

Hannah's Canada connection

Dad says Toronto stint fuelled Miley's showbiz dreams

Movie feature

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

According to Billy Ray Cyrus, there would be no Hannah Montana without Canada.

"That's the reason we're all here," said the musician-turned-actor about the success of his daughter Miley and her hit TV series-turned-movie, Hannah Montana — in theatres next Friday. "If it weren't for our Toronto, Canada, roots, I don't think any of this would be going on right now."

Cyrus spent four years in Toronto shooting Doc, a television drama. It was where young Miley would get a feel for the film set and where she, during a production of Mamma Mia! at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, revealed her showbiz



Billy Ray Cyrus and Miley Cyrus in Hannah Montana: The Movie.

intentions to her dad.

"I specifically remember Miley leaning over to me, (and saying), 'This is what I want to do,'" said Cyrus. "She started taking classes the next week."

Since then, Miley has become a huge star with hit albums, movies and even a bestselling memoir. The incredible success may be a baffling phenomenon to

anyone out of adolescence, but it can surely be attributed to the popularity of Hannah Montana.

"One of the realisms about the film and the magic of Hannah Montana is that Miley is undeniably the one and only Miley — that's just who she is," said Cyrus, who also plays her proud papa on screen.

"Part of what's going on

with the phenomenon of Hannah Montana, and particularly this movie, is there's a realism that every kid can relate to."

The story of a quiet country girl who leads a double-life as a crowd-chased pop sensation, Hannah Montana also cuts dangerously close to the truth. Cyrus recalls having to move houses when fans began showing up asking for Hannah.

"It was a really crazy, crazy time period," admits Cyrus, before pointing out its similarities to his own skyrocket to stardom in the '90s with the overnight hit, Achy Breaky Heart.

"That was an incredible run of momentum and I felt that same momentum coming with Hannah Montana; although at this stage of the game, it feels like this has been four years building.

"I think I'm going to be fortunate enough to get to do it twice."

It's big, it's loud, it's Fast

Fast & Furious

Director: Justin Lin
Stars: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker
Classification: STC
Rating: ★★★★★

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada



Vin Diesel as Dominick Torretto

REVIEW Fast & Furious opens up with an absolutely spectacular (and spectacularly dumb) bit of pre-credits action outrage featuring a failed oil tanker hijacking that climaxes with Vin Diesel gunning it into the side of a spiralling, flaming rig.

And that's really all you need to know about this sequel, the fourth in the long-running and popular franchise: It's big, it's loud, it fetishizes its hulking, turtle-faced star and is loaded with revving motors and sleek, sexy chrome.

Diesel reprises the role he essayed in the first instalment, 2001's The Fast and the Furious, of Dominick Torretto, the car-racing

criminal warrior who lives by a samurai-esque code of the road.

Paul Walker, whose screen presence equates that of a blue-eyed plank of wood, also returns as the undercover FBI agent sworn to bring down the car-crushing criminals that freely maraud through the streets of L.A.

These two former antagonists are thrust together again to track down the Mexican drug lord responsible for the death of Torretto's girlfriend Letty (Michelle Rodriguez, also returning ... briefly).

Fast & Furious is a fun, straight-up, straight-faced genre flick that, most importantly, fully understands its audience.

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Movies

★★★★★ A CLASSIC; ★★★★★ EXCELLENT; ★★★ GOOD; ★★ FAIR; ★ POOR

Adventureland's got heart

Adventureland

Director: Greg Mottola

Stars: Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart

Classification: 14A

Rating: ★★★★★

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

If, like me, you had a crappy summer job in the 1980s, Adventureland will probably touch a place in your heart. Written and directed by Greg Mottola (Superbad), this comedy follows James (Jesse Eisenberg), an aspiring scholar who is forced into working away his vacation to earn his tuition.

Unable to land anything of prominence, he reluctantly takes a gig at Adventureland, a worn-out amusement park that specializes in fetid corn dogs, fixed games, the endless sound of Falco's Rock Me Amadeus



Jesse Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart star in Adventureland.

and a bunch of summer slackers "doing the work of pathetic, lazy morons."

Among them is cute Em (Twilight's Kristen Stewart),

the arcade girl that James tragically falls for — she's embroiled in a secret affair with the park's fix-it guy (Ryan Reynolds), after

all.

Although Adventureland is being pitched on Mottola's Superbad cred, this semi-autobiographical film is

On the web

For an Adventureland trailer, and for screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies.

a much softer, more nostalgic love story set in the skids of Pennsylvania.

Sure, the script doesn't have the comedic gusto of his previous hit, but Mottola makes up for a more contemplative story by providing plenty of heart to characters clinging onto the final moments of immaturity.

Highlighted by clever, nuanced performances and a killer soundtrack that includes everyone from Crowded House to Hüsker Dü, Mottola captures — with the essence of hindsight — what it means to come of age in 1987.

And to think, he didn't even have to use a Milli Vanilli reference.

Wolverine leaked out on Internet

FILM X-Men Origins: Wolverine made an unauthorized debut online Tuesday, even though the film isn't set for U.S. release until May 1.

Websites described the illegal download as a nearly complete, high-quality copy, but 20th Century Fox, the studio behind the film, said Wednesday that it included temporary sound and music and was missing effects and some scenes, with other scenes unedited.

The studio issued a statement saying, "We immediately contacted the appropriate authorities and had it removed," though once a film begins circulating online, it can be difficult to stamp it out.

Because of forensic marks, the studio said it would be able to determine the source of the leak, though it did not immediately disclose it.

REUTERS

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A Mob, Mob world

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada

FEATURE If Italian director Matteo Garrone is running from the Mob, he's not showing it.

His new film, Gomorrah, has already seen the original writer go into police protection in Italy. The lack of bulletproof glass in the windows of the hotel room Garrone is sitting in can't be considered encouraging either.

Although, with the film garnering critical acclaim around the world (it won the Grand Prix at Cannes and screened at last year's Toronto International Film Festival), perhaps he just wants to relish the moment a bit.

Based on a famous investigative book about the Camorra organized crime syndicate from Naples by journalist and writer Roberto Saviano, Garrone's film reveals the inner workings of the infamous cartel, rumoured to be considerably larger than the Sicilian mafia. Garrone was drawn to the chance to strip away the stereotypes and present a gritty, unembellished story about a real-life mob.

"With Saviano's book, there was the possibility to tell a story about the Camorra from inside," Garrone said.

Every image in Gomorrah

"I've seen a lot of masterpieces about the Mafia, but always glamorized. In this case it was interesting to show how the reality is different from the fiction."

Matteo Garrone

rah bears the mark of Garrone's careful choreographing — from the claustrophobic, prison-like concrete slums that serve as a metaphor for one young character trapped in a choice of either joining the gang or becoming one of its victims, to the wide open spaces two reckless wannabe-gangster teens are always seen inhabiting.

Garrone wanted to steer clear of the tropes of the mob-movie genre and avoid the glamorization that tends to come with the territory. In Gomorrah, the criminal culprits don't cruise the countryside in fancy cars — they cling perilously to survival in near-poverty.

"I've seen a lot of masterpieces about the Mafia, but always glamorized. In this case it was interesting to show how the reality is different from the fiction," he said.

Pitt, Inglourious Basterds up for Cannes

Brad Pitt is going to Cannes — and means to win. The star's Second World War action film, the intentionally misspelled *Inglourious Basterds*, has been invited to the Cannes Film Festival from May 13-24, along with the film's director, Variety reports. **PEOPLE.COM**

19**Movies**

Rogen courts danger

Movie profile

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Having spent the last few years cultivating a lucrative career playing the loveable stoner, Seth Rogen tries for something a bit different in his latest film, *Observe and Report*.

Rogen plays Ronnie Barnhardt, a loose-cannon, bipolar security guard obsessed with protecting his mall patrons and, by extension, so-

ciety as a whole. Ronnie launches a crusade to bring a serial flasher to justice that puts him at odds with a local police detective, played by Ray Liotta. But while Ronnie takes his pursuit of justice almost too seriously, Rogen didn't approach the film — opening next week — as a drama.

"In my head it was all very funny," he says. "The more serious and crazy it was, the funnier I thought it was after the take."

But he did pack on the pounds to prepare for the part. "It seemed like it

would be funny, the bigger Ronnie was, the less physically capable he looked. Because the joke is, he actually is pretty dangerous," said Rogen, who has since slimmed down for *The Green Hornet*.

He's built a reputation for moving between family-friendly films and more adult material; Rogen most recently voiced a character for the animated *Monsters vs. Aliens*, a far cry from *Observe and Report*.

"I'm very thankful that people are allowing me to do this," Rogen says. "I'm

kind of shocked that I've gotten away with it, that I can do a movie that has been described as transgressive and another that's a delightful family romp."

Transgressive is one way to put it. *Observe and Report* lays on intense amounts of violence and profanity for a comedy.

"There was a conscious decision to make this film kind of dangerous and edgy," explains writer/director Jody Hill. "There've been a lot of 'safe' comedies, where everything's a wink to the camera. I thought if



Seth Rogen plays a mall security guard in *Observe and Report*.

you could root it in reality and then still have these crazy things go on, that it would have more impact."

Of course, Hill had to contend with the success of that other movie about a mall guard, Paul Blart: Mall

Cop, but as far as he's concerned, the similarities end at their shared profession. "We wanted to make a sort of character piece that you would see in the '70s," he said, "like *Taxi Driver* and *The King of Comedy*."



Amy Adams, left, and Emily Blunt star in *Sunshine Cleaning*.

Cast mops it up

Sunshine Cleaning

Director: Christine Jeffs
Stars: Amy Adams, Emily Blunt
Classification: STC
Rating: ⓈⓈⓈ

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

In *Sunshine Cleaning*, Amy Adams and Emily Blunt star as two sisters ringing in an early mid-life crisis by starting up a lucrative business cleaning up gruesome crime-scenes.

It may sound more like a grim new HBO series, but instead this comic-drama takes a light and charming look at a broken family just trying to make ends meet.

While single mom Rose (Adams) deals with an extramarital affair and a son who has an odd fetish for licking everything from aquariums to his teacher's leg, Norah (Blunt) is a

mope who can't seem to get over her mother's death. To top it off, their dad (Alan Arkin basically reprising his Little Miss Sunshine role) is constantly engaging in zany business ventures.

For Adams, this may be as subversive as we've seen the actress. Considering her past roles (like the naïve nun from *Doubt* or a ditzzy fairytale princess in *Enchanted*), that's not really saying much however. Still, she proves herself with a powerfully nuanced, and empathetic performance.

Besides, acting is where *Sunshine Cleaning* really exceeds. Written by first-timer Megan Holley (the film got discovered in a 2003 screenwriting contest), *Cleaning* may suffer from a standard script that thinks it's smarter than it is, but the bleaker context and superior cast definitely helps mop up the spill.

From the director of *SUPERBAD*

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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				CINEPLEX ENTERTAINMENT WESTHILLS

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Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., APRIL 3 TO THURS., APRIL 9. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

CANYON MEADOWS

Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail,
403-670-5444

Bedtime Stories (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:45-7:10
Bolt (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:7-20
Bride Wars (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-7:15-9:35
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:35-8:15
Fired Up (14A) Fri-Thu 10
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-7:25
Inkheart (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:35
The International (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-9:40
Marley & Me (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:05-7:05-9:45
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-6:45-9:35
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:40-6:50
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri-Thu 4:20-7
Stone of Destiny (PG) Fri-Thu 9:40
Twilight (PG) Fri-Thu 9:15
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Thu 9:45
The Wrestler (14A) Fri-Thu 9:30

CROWFOOT CROSSING

91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

12 Rounds (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:7-10:9-45
Adventureland (14A) Fri-Tue 12:10-3:50-7:50 Wed 3:50-7:50 Thu 12:10-3:50-7:50 Sat & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Duplicity (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:55-9:55 Wed 3:40-6:55-9:55 Thu 12:40-3:40-6:55-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Fast & Furious (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-1:20-3:20-4:50-7:25-9:35-10:15
The Haunting in Connecticut (14A) Fri-Thu 2:40-7:50-10:30
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:35-10:10
Knowing (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-7:15-10:05
Metropolitan Opera: Lucia di Lammermoor Encore (STC) Sat 11
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-3:15-6:45-9:30
Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-5:7-30-10
Race to Witch Mountain (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:7-20-9:40 Mon 12:25-3:10 Tue-Thu 12:25-2:45-7:20-9:40
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 12:20-3:30-6:40 Sat 3:30-6:40 Sun 12:20-3:30-6:40
The Tragically Hip: We Are the Same - One Night Only, LIVE in HD (STC) Mon 8
Watchmen (18A) Fri-Thu 9:35

EAU CLAIRE MARKET

200 Barclay Parade, 403-263-3166

Adventureland (14A) Fri 7:25-10 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-7:25-10 Mon-Thu 7:25-10
Crossing Over (14A) Fri 6:40-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:25-6:40-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:50
Duplicity (PG) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30
Fast & Furious (14A) No Passes Fri 7:10-10:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:10-4:05-7:10-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:10-10:20
Metropolitan Opera: Lucia di Lammermoor Encore (STC) Sat 11
One Week (STC) Fri 7:40-10:10 Sat 4-



A scene from Monsters vs. Aliens, which is currently in theatres.

7:40-10:10 Sun 12:55-3:50-7:40-10:10 Mon 10:10 Tue-Thu 7:40-10:10
Sunshine Cleaning (14A) Fri 6:55-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:10-3:55-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:55-9:40
The Tragically Hip: We Are the Same - One Night Only, LIVE in HD (STC) Mon 8

EMPIRE STUDIO 16 COUNTRY HILLS

388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

12 Rounds (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:40-4:15-7:35-10:10
Adventureland (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:20-3:7-15-9:55
Duplicity (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:40-6:50-9:45
Fast & Furious (14A) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-1:3-15-35-7:30-9:35-10:05
Gran Torino (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:25-3:20-6:35-9:25
The Haunting in Connecticut (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:10-6:55-9:20
I Love You, Man (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:7-20-10
Knowing (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:7-20-10
The Last House on the Left (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:25-7:40-10:15
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:05-6:40-9
Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:10-2:30-4:50-7:10-9:30
Race to Witch Mountain (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-7:9-25
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:20-7:45-10:10
Taken (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:25-4:30-7:25-9:45
Watchmen (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:15-3:45-8

WWE: Wrestlemania 25 2009

(STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 5

EMPIRE STUDIO 10 MACLEOD TRAIL

100-16061 Macleod Trail, 403-974-0470

12 Rounds (14A) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 6:45-9:20
Adventureland (14A) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-7:15-9:55
Duplicity (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:30-6:30-9:40
Fast & Furious (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:1-30-4:4-30-7:30-9:45-10:15
The Haunting in Connecticut (14A) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2:4-35-7:40-10:10 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 2:4-35-10:10 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 2:4-35-7:40-10:10
I Love You, Man (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:20-7:20-10
Knowing (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:15-3:20-6:50-9:50
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:10-9:30-11:45
Race to Witch Mountain (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40
GLOBE CINEMA
617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308
The Reader (18A) Fri 6:50-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:10-6:50-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:10
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 7:15 Sat-Sun 1:3-15-7:9-15 Mon-Thu 7:9-15
MOVIEDOME
1039 999 36 St., 403-248-2000
8x10 Tasveer (STC) Fri-Thu 6:30-9:15
Bedtime Stories (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-6:40
Bolt (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-4
Ek - The Power of One (14A) Fri-Thu

9

Fired Up (14A) Fri-Thu 7:05-10:05
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-6:50-9:45
Inkheart (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:50-6:55
The International (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:35
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:3-35-7:10-9:55
Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:9-50
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-10
The Wrestler (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:45-9:40

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK

6455 Macleod Trail, 403-212-8994

12 Rounds (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:10-7:15-10:10 Mon 1:15-4:10-10:10 Tue-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:15-10:10
Adventureland (14A) Fri-Wed 1:10-4:20-7:15-10:20 Thu 4:20-7:15-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:2-30-5-7:25-10
Duplicity (PG) Fri-Wed 12:55-3:50-7:05-10:05 Thu 3:50-7:05-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Fast & Furious (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:1-30-2-40-4-30-5:20-7:30-8-9:45-10:15-10:35
The Haunting in Connecticut (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:25-10:25
He's Just Not That Into You (PG) Fri-Sat 12:50-3:50-7:05-10:10 Sun 12:50-10:10 Mon 12:50-7:05-10:10 Tue-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:05-10:10
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri-Thu 1:4-05-7:10-10:20
Knowing (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:20-10:15
Metropolitan Opera: Lucia di Lammermoor Encore (STC) Sat 11
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-2:30-5:7-30-10
Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-3:30-8:10-30
Monsters vs. Aliens: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-

2-4:30-7:30

Race to Witch Mountain (PG) Fri-Thu 11:50-2:20-4:55-7:35-10:05
Taken (14A) Fri 1:05-4:10-7:10-9:50 Sat 4:10-7:10-9:50 Sun 1:05-4:10-7:10-9:50 Mon 1:05-4:10-9:50 Tue-Thu 1:05-4:10-7:10-9:50
The Tragically Hip: We Are the Same - One Night Only, LIVE in HD (STC) Mon 5-8
Watchmen (18A) Fri-Thu 12-4-7:30
WWE: Wrestlemania 25 (STC) Sun 5

PLAZA THEATRE

1133 Kensington Rd., 403-283-3636

Area One (STC) Sat 5
Memento (14A) Mon 9
A Promise to the Dead: The Exile Journey of Ariel Dorfman (STC) Tue 7
riP - A Remix Manifesto (14A) Sun 5:25
Run Lola Run (STC) Sun 9
Wendy and Lucy (STC) Fri 7:10-8:50 Sat 1:2-45-7:10-8:50 Sun 12:45-7:10 Mon 7:10 Tue 8:50 Wed-Thu 7:10-8:50

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM

2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

12 Rounds (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:20
Adventureland (14A) Fri-Tue 12:50-3:40-6:55-9:40 Wed 3:40-6:55-9:40 Thu 12:50-3:40-6:55-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Duplicity (PG) Fri-Tue 12:45-3:50-6:45-9:45 Wed 3:50-6:45-9:45 Thu 12:45-3:50-6:45-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Fast & Furious (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-12:35-1:25-5:3-20-3:55-6:35-7:05-7:35-9:25-9:55-10:25
The Haunting in Connecticut (14A) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:7-10-9:50
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:35-7:20-10:05
Knowing (14A) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:15-7:25-10:20
The Last House on the Left (18A) Fri-Thu 10:10

Monsters vs. Aliens (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-7:30
Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:2-30-5:7-30-10
Race to Witch Mountain (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:40-7:15
Watchmen (18A) Fri-Sat 12:3-25-6:50-10:15 Sun 12:10-15 Mon-Thu 12:3-25-6:50-10:15
WWE: Wrestlemania 25 (STC) Sun 6
You Changed My Life (Filipino) (G) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:05-6:30-9:15

THE UPTOWN

612 8th Ave., 403-265-0120

Doubt (PG) Fri 4:50 Sat-Sun 12:10-4:50 Mon-Thu 4:50
It's Not Me, I Swear! (14A) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 2:30-7:10-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:20
Milk (14A) Fri 4:40 Sat-Sun 12-4:40 Mon-Thu 4:40
Pontypool (14A) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 2:20-7-9:10 Mon-Thu 7-9:10
Toons For Toddlers (STC) Sat 10:30

WESTHILLS 10

165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

Adventureland (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:25-7:40 Mon-Thu 6:15-9
Duplicity (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:05-7:05-10 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:05
Fast & Furious (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:05-4:7-25-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:35-8:10
The Haunting in Connecticut (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:20-7:10-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:8-45
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:10-7:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:25-7:55
Knowing (14A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:35-7:20-10:15 Mon-Thu 6:10-8:50
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:20-12:20-2:35-3:55-4:50-6:45-7:35-9:10-9:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:30-6:05-7:45-8:35
One Week (STC) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:10-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:30
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Sun 1:3-50-6:35-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:15

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Billboard's top albums

1. NOW 30, Various Artists; 2. Hannah Montana: The Movie Soundtrack; 3. Twilight Soundtrack; 4. In a Perfect World..., Keri Hilson; 5. All I Ever Wanted, Kelly Clarkson. REUTERS



Music

Thunderheist hits the road

JASON RICHARDS
for Metro Canada

One can't help but feel like Thunderheist's music appearing in last year's critically acclaimed movie *The Wrestler* was destined to happen.

After all, the Toronto-based electro-rap duo's producer Grahm Zilla is the son of Olympic wrestler Gord Bertie.

"I was actually conceived in the Olympic village," Grahm reveals, shortly before Thunderheist's Exclaim! Canadian Tour, which takes them across the country between April 2nd and May 2nd.

That piece of family trivia probably added further resonance to the moment he heard Jerk It, his group's biggest single, bumping in glorious Dolby digital sound during *The Wrestler*'s credits.

At first Grahm wasn't interested in the film, writing it off as "just some B-movie" when he heard Mickey Rourke was involved.

"It premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival, and I was there at the time. But I didn't go see the movie," he says. "I



Thunderheist's self-titled debut includes the single Jerk It, which was featured in *The Wrestler*.

don't know what's wrong with me.

"But when everybody started talking about it and I heard there was all this Oscar buzz, then I got excited. But actually seeing the movie, about half-an-hour in I was shaking, like 'Oh my god, I can't believe my song is in this movie.'"

"That was probably the highlight of my musical career to date," he says.

Another highlight, then, must be when celebrity blogger Perez Hilton posted

Jerk It on his website in 2007. "Our Myspace got like 30,000 hits in a couple hours," says Grahm. "I only realized the magnitude of his readership when I'm getting emails about it from my great-aunt."

From there, Jerk It spread wildfire-like through the internet, prompting a number of new fans to produce videos for the track. Seeing multiple versions of the track on YouTube was yet another surreal moment for Grahm and Thunder-

heist's MC, Isis.

"I can't believe it's at that point where random people are making videos for our songs," he says.

Thunderheist's sweaty, high-energy, bass-heavy sound has evolved quite a bit since their blogospheric breakthrough.

On their self-titled debut, Grahm has further refined his production style by "trying to make it sound less mechanical and letting the music breathe more and have a more nat-

On Tour

- Thunderheist plays the Warehouse in Calgary on April 23rd as part of the Exclaim! Anniversary Tour.
- Details at exclaim.ca

ural feel."

As for Isis, while Jerk It found her rapping in a sultry double-time flow, the MC sings on much of the album.

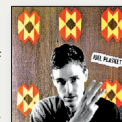
"Her tastes are pretty diverse so she wants to get out of the rap box," says Grahm, "and it's good because for me, I'm way more interested in writing songs than making hip-hop instrumentals."

Just don't expect to hear any of the vocal effect du jour, the robotic auto-tune sound favoured by T-Pain, Lil' Wayne and Kanye West, on any of the tracks.

"After the album was done, somebody was like, 'Oh man, you should have put auto-tune on all the songs,'" says Grahm. "I was like, 'Are you out of your mind?'"

Metro Approved

• **THREE, JOEL PLASKETT:** Plaskett deftly blends a wide range of musical genres and sweet harmonies on this ambitious, and catchy three-disc release.



• **THE HAZARDS OF LOVE, THE DECEMBERISTS:** Indie-rock quintet meshes British folk influences with heavy '70s-rock guitars to create an engaging rock opera.



• **FIST OF GOD, MSTRKRFT:** Electro dance-rock duo dish out hot club tracks with techno-tinged beats and soulful guest vocals.



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Music

Metallica readies for rock hall

BANDS It seems that Metallica will be a two-bassist band at Saturday's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Cleveland.

A day after former bassist Jason Newsted told Billboard.com that his replacement, Robert Trujillo, would not take part in the performance part of the induction, a spokesman for the group's Warner Bros. label clarified that "Jason and Robert will both be playing Metallica's induction songs."

REUTERS

Canada's best singles

Author compiling list of the top 100 Canadian tracks of all time

SoundCheck

Alan Cross

metronews.ca/soundcheck

In 2007, Bob Mersereau, a music writer from the Maritimes, tore the music geek blogosphere asunder as he compiled a book called *The Top 100 Canadian Albums*.

It was an interesting exercise in cultural nation-building, the result of input from hundreds of people across the country as he tried to come up with the definitive list. Maybe you remem-

ber the accusations of regional, gender and era bias. At least it got us talking about Canadian music.

Mersereau is now looking for the top 100 Canadian singles of all time and he asked that I submit a top 10 list as part of the process.

Honestly, though, I'd procrastinated because frankly, I didn't know where to start. Complicating matters is that I'm from the world of album rock radio where the notion of "singles" didn't have any real meaning for years. And to screw things up further, I've long been part of the alt-rock

scene, immersed in some of the most obscure and/or left-wing stuff this country has ever produced.

But I had to submit something. Here's what I sent:

1. At the Hundredth Meridian, Tragically Hip
2. High School Confidential, Rough Trade
3. One More Astronaut, I Mother Earth
4. Screaming Fist, The Viletones
5. Spirit of Radio, Rush
6. American Woman, Guess Who
7. Born to Be Wild, Steppenwolf
8. The Lines You Amend, Sloan
9. Echo Beach, Martha and the Muffins
10. Old Man, Neil Young

The Tragically Hip's At the Hundredth Meridian topped Alan Cross' list of the top 10 Canadian singles of all time ... but he's already having second thoughts.

TORSTAR FILE PHOTO

Amend when I really meant Underwhelmed? What about Jane Siberry's Mimi on the Beach?

How could I have not included Sarah McLachlan, Skinny Puppy, the Bare-naked Ladies, Propagandhi, Teenage Head, the Forgotten Rebels or Max Webster? What about Kim Mitchell and Go for a Soda?

Then there's Chalk Circle, BTO, Gordon Lightfoot! Baby Ran from 54-40! April Wine's not here. There's nothing from The Band on this list! Hallelujah from Leonard Cohen is missing! Is my genre bias showing by not including any hip hop? How could I leave out Life is a Highway or Big League from Tom Cochrane? And why At the Hundredth Meridian and not New Orleans is Sinking? Recall! Recall!

I hate this. I got it all wrong. I quit.

If you can do better, Mersereau says to send your list directly to him at mersereaubob@gmail.com.

TOP 10 MOBILE DOWNLOADS

1. Right Round Flo Rida
2. Kiss Me Thru The Phone Soulja Boy
3. Crack a Bottle Eminem
4. Dead And Gone T.I.
5. Poker Face Lady Gaga
6. Beautiful Akon
7. LoveGame Lady Gaga
8. Single Ladies Beyoncé
9. Heartless Kanye West
10. Whatever You Like T.I.

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ER ends, or does it?

Just as ER ends its run, one of its alumni has booked a meaty new gig. Mekhi Phifer, who for six seasons walked the halls of County General as Dr. Gregory Pratt, has booked a multiple-episode appointment on Fox's *Lie to Me*. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Television

Genies touch down

Canadian celebrities strut through Ottawa this Saturday

TRACEY TONG
Metro Canada



The stars will be out in Ottawa this Saturday, but audiences from all over Canada can tune in when the best in Canadian film is celebrated at the Canada Aviation Museum.

Several hundred thousand people are expected to tune into the 29th annual Genie Awards, not only to see who walked away with the hardware, but to check out the some of Canada's most recognizable celebrities who are acting as the host and presenters, said Sara Morton, CEO of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television. "It's been a tremendous year," said Morton. "The slate of films nominated are quite diverse."

Although there's "no question that Canadian films face a challenge in terms of getting sufficient screen time," Morton said Canadian film is becoming increasingly well received. "They reflect a Canadian sensibility and a Canadian sense of humour, and they can be moving, thought provoking and extremely entertaining," she said.

The day before the awards, celebrities and industry representatives will

Award presenters include:

- Chloe Bourgeois (Tout est parfait/Everything Is Fine)
- Joe Dinicol (Passchendaele)
- Sheila McCarthy (Stone Angel, Little Mosque On The Prairie)
- Sarah Polley (Away From Her)
- Vik Sahay (Amal, Chuck)
- Rossif Sutherland (Poor Boy's Game, Lie Detector)
- Karine Vanasse (Polytechnique).

be arriving in Ottawa by VIA rail from Montreal and Toronto, said Morton.

What at-home viewers will see in the 90-minute time slot will include coverage of the red carpet cocktail event before the awards, where celebrities will be photographed and interviewed, followed by the awards and comedic skits.

In addition to Canadian funnyman Dave Foley, who will act as host of the 2009 awards, actors Sarah Polley and Gordon Pinsent will act as presenters.

"I'm extremely honoured to host the Genie Awards, and I'm looking forward to celebrating the achievements of my fellow Canadians in Ottawa," said Foley, a Kids in the Hall alum.

"As the host, we always seek someone who is well known, Canadian and someone who is humorous and can make it a fun evening," said Morton. Other presenters include

Fortier (Mommy Is at the Hairdresser's), Kevin Newman from Global National and Karine Vanasse (Polytechnique).

The 29th annual Genie Awards will be held at the Canada Aviation Museum in Ottawa Saturday. The awards will be broadcast on Global and IFC at 9 p.m. ET/PT.



Kids in the Hall alumni Dave Foley will host the Genies this year.

FRIDAY

CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
243	317	3	CFCN	etalk	Hollywood	Spectacle: Elvis	Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)	Flashpoint 'Aisle 13' (N)	News (N)		
-	-	4	OMNI	TwoHalf Men	The Simpsons	News	News	The Simpsons (King)	Metropolis		
-	371	5	KXL	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Supernanny	20/20		
245	306	6	CBRT	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	Marketplace	CBC News: the fifth estate	CBC News: The National	The Hour	
244	338	7	CICT	Malcolm-Mid.	Entertainment	NUMB3RS "Blowback"	Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It (N)	(10:01) Dollhouse (N)	News Hour	
246	-	8	KAL	Law & Order: SVU	Mantrucker	The Doctors (N)	Survivorman (DVS)	Out There	Out There	Your City	
-	372	12	KREM	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors (N)	Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)	Flashpoint 'Aisle 13' (N)	NUMB3RS		
-	374	14	KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Wash. Week	McLaughlin	Bill Moyers Journal (N)	NOW on PBS	'Being Served'	Vicar of Dibley	
-	370	16	KHQ	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It (N)	Dateline NBC		
-	373	22	KAYU	The Simpsons	Raymond	TwoHalf Men	Sarah Connor Chronicles	CBC News: The National	(10:01) Dollhouse (N)	News (N)	
502	390	15	CBC	CBC News: The National	Larry King Live (N)	India Reborn (Part 3 of 4)	CBC News: The National	Larry King Live	India Reborn	Cooper 360	
501	391	52	CTV	CTV Newsnet	News	Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	
400	400	21	TSN	NBA Basketball: Cavaliers at Magic	NHL Hockey: Flames at Wild	SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)	Sportsnet Con.	Flames Week	Boxing Friday Night Fights (HDTV)	Sportsnet Connected (HDTV)	
408	418	27	net	ICarly	Family Biz	Nickelodeon's 22nd Annual Kids' Choice Awards (N)	Hockey Central	Flames Week	Frank Patrol	Frank Patrol	Flames in Hour
552	541	39	FAM	Wizards-Place	Wizards-Place	Sony Channel	Richie Rich ** (1994, Comedy)	20/20 (HDTV)	Friday Night Lights (N)	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay
-	-	18	CHTV	The Insider (N)	E News	Are You Smarter	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Testes	Kenny-Spenny
603	561	25	FOOD	Bobby Flay	Dinner Imposs.	The Outer Limits	Forensic Fisher	Daily Planet	Man vs. Wild "Nambiar"	Hel-Loggers	Wedreams
615	520	26	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami "Identity"	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	NCIS: "Witness"	DEA (HDTV)	MANswers	MANswers	GameTrailers
517	522	32	SHOW	Wife Swap	Man vs. Wild "Nambiar"	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	NCIS: "Witness"	DEA (HDTV)	MANswers	MANswers	GameTrailers
520	505	35	DISC	Man vs. Wild "Nambiar"	CSI: NY "Obsession"	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Ice Road Truck		
628	584	43	SPIKE	CSI: NY "Obsession"	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Ice Road Truck		
522	516	45	HIST	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Ice Road Truck		
581	566	102	MTV	Nitro Circus	Fantasy Fact.	Fantasy Fact.	Nitro Circus	MTV Live	Play'd	The Real World	Fantasy Fact.

SATURDAY

CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
243	317	3	CFCN	W-Five (N) (DVS)	Law & Order (HDTV)	ER Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning.	ER Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning.	ER Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning.	ER Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning.	ER Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning.	ER Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning.
-	-	4	OMNI	Omni News: Mandarin	Lost Indulgence ** (2008, Drama)	Karen Mok, Jiang Wenli.	Trendy Zone	Trendy Zone	Word for Word	Word for Word	Chinese Rest.
-	371	5	KXL	News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment Tonight	Yours, Mine & Ours ** (2005, Comedy)	Dennis Quaid	HNIC - After Hours	HNIC - After Hours	Cupid
245	306	6	CBRT	NHL Hockey	Stamp Fishery	NHL Hockey Vancouver Canucks at Edmonton Oilers (HDTV) (Live)	29th Annual Genie Awards (N)	Access Hollywood (N)	Guilty-Renker	NW Backroads	News (N)
244	338	7	CICT	ET Canada	Masterminds	Stamp Fishery	Murdoch Mysteries	Access Hollywood (N)	Guilty-Renker	NW Backroads	News (N)
246	-	8	KAL	Without a Trace	College Basketball: NCAA Tournament Semifinal	Jack Benny	Time Goes By	Run Silent, Run Deep *** (1958, War, Clark Gable)	ER Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning.	America's Most Wanted	News (N)
-	372	12	KREM	The Lawrence Welk Show	Jack Benny	Time Goes By	Run Silent, Run Deep *** (1958, War, Clark Gable)	ER Gates treats a young teen with alcohol poisoning.	America's Most Wanted	News (N)	
-	374	14	KSPS	News (N)	Judge Judy	CSI: NY "Silent Night"	TwoHalf Men	Sat. Report	Weekend	Sat. Report	Mansbridge
-	370	16	KHQ	News (N)	Judge Judy	CSI: NY "Silent Night"	TwoHalf Men	Sat. Report	Weekend	Sat. Report	Mansbridge
-	373	22	KAYU	House "TB or Not TB"	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	CBC News: the fifth estate	Black in America	Black in America	Black in America	Newsroom
502	390	15	CBC	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	CBC News: the fifth estate	Black in America	Black in America	Black in America	Black in America	Newsroom
500	500	29	CNN	(6) Black in America	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
501	391	52	CTV	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
400	400	21	TSN	Curling	SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)	Boxing Juan Diaz vs. Juan Manuel Marquez (HDTV)	The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)	Saturday Night Poker	Sportsnet Con.		
408	418	27	net	English Premier League Soccer Teams TBA.	Kid vs. Kat	League-Evil	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	The Karate Kid *** (1984, Action) Ralph Macchio, Noriyuki "Pat" Morita.	City Slickers *** (1991, Comedy)	E News
552	541	39	FAM	Natural-Sadie	Flight 29 Down	That's-Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han, Montana	City Slickers *** (1991, Comedy)	E News
-	-	18	CHTV	Chef School	E News	Imaginary Playmate (2006, Suspense)	The F Word	Challenge	CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"	CSI: Miami	Ult. Recipe
603	561	25	FOOD	Ultimate Recipe Showdown	Hell's Kitchen	The F Word	Challenge	CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"	CSI: Miami	Ult. Recipe	
615	520	26	A&E	CSI: Miami "Death Grip"	Mutant X "Altered Ego"	XIII (2009, Suspense) Val Kilmer, Stephen McHattie.	Guinea Pig	Guinea Pig	Destroyed	Time Warp	Cris Angel
517	522	32	SHOW	Pursuit-Happy	Trailer Park	Criss Angel Mindfreak	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Lucky Number Slevin (2006, Crime Drama)	Elizabeth *** (1998, Historical Drama)	
520	505	35	DISC	Destroyed	Time Warp	Criss Angel Mindfreak	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Lucky Number Slevin (2006, Crime Drama)	Elizabeth *** (1998, Historical Drama)	
628	584	43	SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	NCIS: "Twisted Sister"	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	MTV Live
522	516	45	HIST	Sinking-Athabaskan	The Hills-Lnch	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	
581	566	102	MTV	MTV News	The Hills-Lnch	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	

SUNDAY

CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
243	317	3	CFCN	Star Wars Clo.	Degrassi: TNG	Playing for Keeps (2009, Docudrama)	Roger Cross (DVS)	The Mentalist (HDTV) (N)	News (N)		
-	-	4	OMNI	Without a Trace	Storm Troopers	Funniest Home Videos	Country Music Awards	Extreme Makeover: Home	Desperate Housewives	Brothers	
-	371	5	KXL	News	Storm Troopers	Funniest Home Videos	Country Music Awards	Extreme Makeover: Home	Desperate Housewives	Brothers	
245	306	6	CBRT	Cirque du Soleil: Kooza (HDTV)	King of the Hill	(8:01) Brothers & Sisters	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Family Guy	The Simpsons	
244	338	7	CICT	16:9 Picture	King of the Hill	(8:01) Brothers & Sisters	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Family Guy	The Simpsons	
246	-	8	KAL	TwoHalf Men	TwoHalf Men	60 Minutes	Friends	Hates Chris	Kings "Insurrection" (N)	King of Love Bus	Reviews
-	372	12	KREM	News (N)	60 Minutes	Nature (HDTV) (N) (DVS)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	
-	374	14	KSPS	Lark Rise to Candleford	News (N)	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	
-	370	16	KHQ	News (N)	News (N)	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	
-	373	22	KAYU	House	News (N)	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	
502	390	15	CBC	CBC News: Sunday Night (N)	Saving Luna (2007, Documentary)	Black in America	Black in America	Black in America	Black in America	Black in America	
500	500	29	CNN	(6) Black in America	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	
501	391	52	CTV	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	
400	400	21	TSN	Curling	SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)	NHL Hockey Colorado Avalanche at Philadelphia Phillies	Sportsnet Connected	Sportsnet Connected	Sportsnet Connected	Sportsnet Connected	
408	418	27	net	(6) MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves at Philadelphia Phillies	Air Buddies (2006, Comedy) Patrick Cranshaw	Kate Hudson: Hollywood	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	
552	541	39	FAM	Natural-Sadie	Flight 29 Down	That's-Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han, Montana	City Slickers *** (1991, Comedy)	E News
-	-	18	CHTV	Inside Hollywood (DVS)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	
603	561	25	FOOD	Iron Chef America	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	
615	520	26	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos (HDTV)	
517	522	32	SHOW	Pursuit-Happy	Trailer Park	Criss Angel Mindfreak	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Lucky Number Slevin (2006, Crime Drama)	Elizabeth *** (1998, Historical Drama)	
520	505	35	DISC	Stephen Hawking-Theory	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	
628	584	43	SPIKE	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	
522	516	45	HIST	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	
581	566	102	MTV	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	

Lifetime picks up Project Runway

TV U.S. reality TV show Project Runway will air on cable network Lifetime Television after show producer The Weinstein Co. agreed to pay NBC Universal to move the series from its Bravo cable network.

The show — where fashion designers compete for money to launch their own clothing line — has been one of Bravo's top-rated shows.

But in April last year, Weinstein Co. said it was taking Project Runway to Lifetime in an agreement that Weinstein Co. valued at about \$200 million over five years.

NBC Universal, which owns Bravo, sued Weinstein Co., run by brothers Bob and Harvey Weinstein, claiming NBC and Bravo had the right of first refusal for future episodes and any spinoffs.

Lifetime Networks, which targets women and is owned by Hearst Corp and The Walt Disney Co., then counter-sued in November, creating a legal entanglement that potentially threatened to derail the show altogether.

"NBC Universal, The Weinstein Company and Lifetime have resolved their disputes. The Weinstein Company will pay NBCU for the right to move Project Runway to Lifetime," said NBC Universal, the media wing of General Electric Co., in a statement Wednesday.

The amount of the payment was not disclosed.

"We're thrilled to be launching our relationship with Lifetime with this groundbreaking cable deal that includes the next five years of Project Runway," Harvey Weinstein said in a statement.

REUTERS

Anna Nicole Smith's estranged parents may be teaming up. Smith's father, Donald Hogan, told E! News that he is considering working with Smith's mother, Virgie Arthur, to file a wrongful death suit against their daughter's lawyerly companion, Howard K. Stern. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Entertainment

Howie Beck tunes take cheerful turn

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada

Sometimes you have to get lost to find something. For Howie Beck, it was music.

The Toronto-based singer-songwriter has returned with *How To Fall Down In Public*, his first full-length album in almost five years. The disc departs from what fans and critics have typically come to expect from Beck.

While the personal melancholy still exists in his lyrics, the musical tone has taken a cheerful turn with buoyant rhythms and bubbly acoustic strings accompanied by urban and pastoral sound effects (crickets chirping and horse hooves clomping on one song, as an example.)

Birthing the album, a process Beck describes as "getting out of my comfort zone," came after a lengthy self-imposed exile to Paris in search of some inspiration, and to play with long-time friend and co-producer Gonzales. New surroundings gave him the spark he needed to put pen to paper. "I had written some stuff that I wasn't really happy with," Beck said. "For me, Paris was perfect. There's total anonymity there, and there was something very liberating about spending that time by myself. Half the time I'd look up and I



Toronto-based singer-songwriter Howie Beck has returned with a new album called *How To Fall Down In Public*.

wouldn't know where I was: I'd be thinking about music and lyrics all day."

Recording the album also proved initially difficult for Beck, who co-produced and played every instrument. In recent years, he has collaborated with the likes of Hayden and Sarah Harmer on their respective projects, and wore the production hat on Jason Collett's last two albums. Mastering and editing your own work can be tricky business, he notes,

"I had written some stuff that I wasn't really happy with. For me, Paris was perfect (as an escape)."

Howie Beck

and Beck felt the tension of sitting on both sides of the glass. But a little help from his old pal went a long way. "Gonzales was a pretty

big part of the process for me," he said. "When I produce, those two sides of producer and musician flow easily. When I'm a musician first, it can be very frustrating. I have no objectivity there. But it was about getting away from the usual and challenging the way I think about recording my own music, instead of just, 'Meh, I'll try this, I'll try that.' This time, it was like a switch that flicked."

Plaskett explains three sides to life on the road

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada



songs like that? And then I thought, why don't I make a triple record?"

It's nothing special to put out a double record these days — if you've got enough songs it's easy to stuff another disc in the package. But a triple album release? That's exactly how many CDs come with Nova Scotia native Joel Plaskett's new release, appropriately titled *Three*.

The folk rocker and former Thrush Hermit lead singer says the idea to release three records together was simple. "Not a lot of people do it," he says matter of factly. "And I had a lot of songs first and foremost to hang it on."

It also helped that he inadvertently repeated the same word three times in a few of the songs' titles. When he realized he had tracks named: *Rolling, Rolling, Rolling*; *Rewind, Rewind, Rewind*; and *Gone, Gone, Gone*, a light bulb went off and a theme appeared.

"I had a few songs that repeated the same word three times and I thought that was cool," he explains.



Writing enough good tracks to fill three records is no easy feat, but then Plaskett also wanted to create a concept record. He says once he recorded everything he had to figure out which song fit where. "I just put all these songs together," he says. "Then I had to connect the dots. It was like 'oh perfect, I know what this one does now.'"

The disc takes a personal look at what life is like on the road. The more upbeat first album is about leaving where you came from, the sombre and folkier second record deals with being away from friends and family, while the lighter third instalment focuses on returning home.

"Travelling and being gone, or trying to return home, is sort of an obvious thing if you're a musician," he says. "But I when I listened back to stuff I recorded while I'd been on the road that was a huge theme that came up."

It's all powerful stuff that could have been derailed if there was a sluggish part to this album, which tends to happen when artists release more than one disc at a time. But, surprisingly, there's not one skip-over song; it's all incredibly catchy music.

Nova Scotia native Joel Plaskett recently released the triple album *Three*.



The Lost Fingers' debut *Lost In The '80s* went platinum in Quebec and was nominated for the Juno Award for album of the year.

Fingers pump up the jazz

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada



Ever wonder what *You Shook Me All Night Long* would sound like if Django Reinhardt played it? The Lost Fingers have.

Covering the AC/DC staple is just part of the sojourn into the decade of Aqua Net, skinny ties and bright pastel suits on The Lost Fingers' debut *Lost In The '80s*. The disc is a collection of 1980s hits, done in the Montreal trio's jazz and gypsy-guitar style for which the Belgian songwriter was known. The group revisits classics such as Soft Cell's *Tainted Love*, Technotronic's

Pump Up The Jam and Bon Jovi's *You Give Love A Bad Name*.

The Lost Fingers were born in 2004, when long-time friends and former Quebec Conservatory of Music students Byron Mikaloff (guitars) and Christian Roberge (lead vocals) tinkered with Samantha Fox's *Touch Me* while hearing it on the radio. Adding double-bassist Alex Morrisette, the trio recorded the song for what was to be a comeback album for the British pop star. The project fell through. The Lost Fingers moved on.

"It was serendipitous," the guitarist Mikaloff said. "We just laughed after

Christian played this little arrangement. There was this exclamation point that came over our heads and we were like, 'We got it! We should do a tribute to the '80s.' We just dove into it."

The approach succeeded in their native province. *Lost In The '80s* went platinum in Quebec within 12 weeks of its release and held the No. 1 spot on the Quebec Top 200 for eight weeks. Juno Award nominations for fan choice award and album of the year brought the band national prominence.

"We're curious to see if English Canada will take it as a joke or get it the

way people in Quebec got it," Mikaloff said. "What's hot there isn't what's hot here. There's a lot of Quebecers that don't get Nickleback, whereas Albertans dig it."

But Mikaloff is pretty optimistic about turning Anglophones onto their act, and introducing listeners to a less familiar genre to boot.

"People who see us might not be there to see us and they'll do this double take," Mikaloff said. "Then they'll recognize the song. You might hear some laughs at first then you see them getting into it. We're reaching people beyond jazz. This swing style is very rich."

Nolan's Dark Knight follow-up

Christopher Nolan's follow-up to *The Dark Knight* is a still-under-wraps sci-fi action film called *Inception*, but he's lining up a rather spiffy cast: Marion Cotillard, Cillian Murphy and Ellen Page are all in talks to star. EMPIREONLINE.COM

Going Out**Mix of Six****100 Hours of Astronomy**

When: Friday to April 8
Where: Rothney Astrophysical Observatory – near Prid-dis
Take a peek into space with the Rothney Observatory telescope as a part of the International Year of Astronomy.

Family pool time

When: April 5 to 12
Where: Southland Drive and 19th St
Families-only on Sunday mornings at the Southland Leisure Centre. Makes for an easy going time in the water park.

Aggie Days

When: April 4 & 5
Where: Stampede Park
Wanna milk a cow? Shear a sheep? Bring the kids to Stampede Park for Aggie Days, where you can cover 50,000 square feet of interactive agricultural activities.

Spoken Work

When: Runs until April 5
Where: various locations
The Calgary International Spoken Word Festival offers various events for different tastes but poets and readers alike will enjoy this festival. Tickets range from free to \$30. Visit calgaryspokenwordfestival.com.

A Touch of Latin class

When: Saturday nights
Where: Soho Bar and Grill, 801-6th St SW
If you're up for some hip swivelin' join DJ Chico and DJ Vacilon for Latin class. Dress code enforced.

Alice in Wonderland ballet

When: Friday & Saturday
Where: At the Jubilee Auditorium
For ballet fans or fans of the cult classic, *Calgarians* should be sure to check this ballet out.

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now**1****Karen O**

ARTIST The charismatic frontwoman of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs is on a roll.

Her band has just released its *Blitz*, an album that's garnering rave reviews from media critics that matter. She's also scored the music for Spike Jonze's upcoming film, *Where The Wild Things Are*. Proof enough that when it comes to Gen Y hip-dom, she's still the reigning queen.

**2****Virtual parties**

TREND Crank up the media player and shake your little mouse, it's online party time. The phenomenon, in which someone creates a web forum where people can post homemade videos or present gag gifts to celebrate an occasion, is catching on fast. Apparently, several hundred birthday-related domains are registered each month at GoDaddy.com, a website that sells them for \$1.99 US and up.

3**Genies**

AWARDS Canadian film industry's annual bash comes to life Saturday in Ottawa with Kids in the Hall veteran Dave Foley as host.

The Necessities of Life is the movie to watch out for – it has eight nominations including best picture and best director. Show airs on Global at 9 p.m. ET.

**4****Ask Arthur Frommer & Travel Better, Cheaper, Smarter**

BOOK With the recession upon us and summer around the corner, travel bugs can now turn to the original guru of budget tourism for a little advice. This book is packed with wallet-friendly tips (e.g. how to find the best airfares online), along with many other enthusiastic recommendations.

**5****Myspace previews Neil Young**

MUSIC You're never too old to get tech-savvy. Members of the online community can now stream the Canadian rock legend's upcoming album *Fork in the Road* before it hits stores Tuesday.

**6****Harper's Island**

TELEVISION The premise for this chilling whodunit is simple: A group of friends and family visit the titular island for a wedding only to find a maniacal killer in their midst and a rising body count. The production promises a new victim every week in the 13-episode thriller, which begins on Global Thursday at 10 p.m. ET.

7**Adventureland**

FILM Superbad director Greg Mottola returns to laughs-land with the semi-autobiographical story of a college graduate's trials and tribulations in a run-of-the-mill amusement park. Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart and Ryan Reynolds star, propped by several house-of-Judd-Apatow regulars. Falco's *Rock Me Amadeus* underlines the soundtrack. We smell a hit.

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When asked whether there's any truth to the breakup rumours dogging Lindsay Lohan and Samantha Ronson these days, the 22-year-old actress answered unequivocally. "Those rumours aren't true," Lohan told E! News. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Brit's courtroom drama deepens

COURTS It seems Britney Spears' life has gone from soap opera to spy novel, people.com reports.

Sam Lutfi's younger sister Christina testified in a Los Angeles court Wednesday that she recently snuck a cellphone to the pop star at a Beverly Hills hotel — a plan allegedly hatched by Spears herself.

Spears, 27, whose phone access is strictly limited by her father Jamie, had initially called Lutfi's cellphone number in mid-January to speak with Christina.

"(Britney) told me she wanted to get a hold of Sam," said Christina, 25, whose brother had once been Spears' manager. "She wanted him to help her find a lawyer, and wanted someone to get a prepaid cellphone to her. She was scared because her father was blackmailing her with visitation rights over her kids."

Spears allegedly told Christina to meet her on the fifth floor gym of the Peninsula Hotel on Jan. 16. When Christina arrived, Spears was working out

with her mother while a bodyguard stood nearby.

But they met in a sauna where Christina gave her a phone, saying it was from Sam and ex-boyfriend Adnan Ghalib, which Spears then hid in a locker. "She asked me, 'Will Sam be

able to help me?'" Christina added.

The phone, however, was later discovered by Spears' security team and confiscated from her purse.

Earlier on Wednesday, Blair Berk, a lawyer for Jamie Spears, testified that Britney "was in

such fear (of Sam), she asked if I could get him arrested, to keep him away from her." As for a purported recording of the pop star circulating the internet in which she allegedly asks for a lawyer's help in ending her father's legal control, Berk said the singer repeatedly denied she was seeking outside legal help. Berk also expressed doubt in the recording's authenticity.

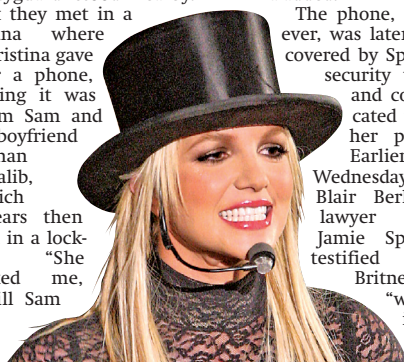
For more than a year, a probate court has ruled that Spears "lacks the capacity" to hire any lawyers

on her own.

The ongoing hearing is to determine whether to extend a restraining order against Lutfi, 34, whom Spears' father alleges is harassing his daughter and is conspiring to disrupt his legal control over her life.

Lutfi's attorney, Bryan Freedman, has denied his client has committed any wrongdoing. Closing arguments in the restraining order case will be heard on April 21. Lutfi is forbidden to have contact with her until then.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Miley can't even appease Obama

PEOPLE Apparently your dad being president is enough to get the Jonas Brothers to come play a private concert for you, but it's not enough to get a sneak peek at Hannah Montana: The Movie.

The film's star, Miley Cyrus, tells Access Hollywood that Malia and Sasha Obama wanted to get a look at her new movie before anyone else, but Cyrus said no. "They want me to send them a copy, so we will," Cyrus says. "But, like everyone else, they have to wait till April 10. Even the president."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Salma dishes on motherhood

PEOPLE Salma Hayek says waiting to have a baby made her a better mother, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 42-year-old actress — who has an 18-month-old daughter Valentina with husband Francois-Henri Pinault — thinks her life experience prepared her for the trials and tribulations of parenthood.

"I thought I was going to need help getting pregnant, and I didn't," she said. "I feel that I've done enough things in life where I can appreciate the time I spend with her as my number one priority and not feel I'm missing out on something. I feel I'm a lot more patient."

"I'm a more fulfilled human being now, and I probably wouldn't have been 10

years ago. She gets a better mother for being born now."

Hayek also revealed she was diagnosed with gestational diabetes during her pregnancy — after Match Point actor Paul Bettany advised her to see a doctor when she experienced unusual cravings.

She explained to WebMD magazine: "I was nauseous for the whole nine months, and the only thing I craved was fruit — cold mango, watermelon. And then later on, I was saying that I didn't know why I was getting so big. Paul Bettany said something about too much fruit and gestational diabetes, and I thought, 'What does he know?'"

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Travis, Shanna hit the skids again

RELATIONSHIPS Travis Barker and Shanna Moakler have split up — again. The couple, who reconciled a few months ago, reportedly got into such a nasty fight that the police were called, though no charges were filed.

"Travis confronted Shanna about her having an affair with

Gerard Butler while he was in the hospital" recovering from the plane crash he survived late last year, a source tells Us Weekly. Moakler's rep confirmed: "They did break up, but Shanna never cheated on Travis while he was in the hospital."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Paris ditches money-grubbing friend after reality show

PEOPLE Paris Hilton has apparently ditched her best friend forever, Brittany Flickinger, because Hilton believes she was just using her. Flickinger, who came out on top on the reality show Paris Hilton's My New BFF, was just "another one of these girls using

Paris to get famous," a source tells Life and Style Weekly.

"They haven't spoken in two months. All that girl wanted was the free trips, the goodie bags, staying at Paris' mansion and the parties and clubs. She was desperate for money."

In other Hilton family news, Paris' 19-year-old brother, Barron Hilton, says he's tired of the party lifestyle. "I want to be an international singer-songwriter," he tells Page Six. "I'm sick of all the Hilton stuff, where all anyone cared about was whether I

was doing coke in the bathroom."

Barron says he's also developing a reality series with Viacom documenting his attempt to launch his music career. "It's gonna be like The Hills, but real," he says.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Cowell's anti-Twitter stance

PEOPLE Simon Cowell is speaking out again, this time about the phenomenon of Twitter and celebrities, like Ashton Kutcher and Demi Moore, who are hooked on it.

"It's like phoning someone randomly whose number you don't even have and saying, 'Hi, it's Simon,

I went out with my family this weekend,'" Cowell tells the Daily Telegraph. There was no word on whether Cowell's anti-Twitter stance has anything to do with the fact that American Idol's Ryan Seacrest once used Twitter to post that Cowell looked old.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Madonna OK'd to adopt: Source

PEOPLE Sources claim that, even after a week's worth of delays and protests, Madonna's bid to adopt a second child from Malawi will be approved.

Judge Esme Chombo isn't due to rule on the adoption of four-year-old Mer-

cy James until today, but Chombo has reportedly

told Madonna she will be granted custody. "This is all very confidential, and Judge Chombo must still make her ruling — but that ruling will be in favor of Madonna," a senior Malawian official tells AskMen.com.

METRO WORLD NEWS





Friday
Mostly cloudy
1°C / -3°C



Saturday
Partly cloudy
4°C / -5°C



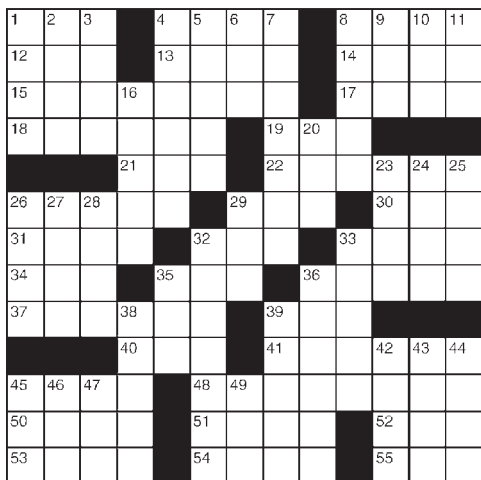
Sunday
Partly cloudy
8°C / -6°C



Andrew Schultz, Weather Specialist — Breakfast Television

"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta."

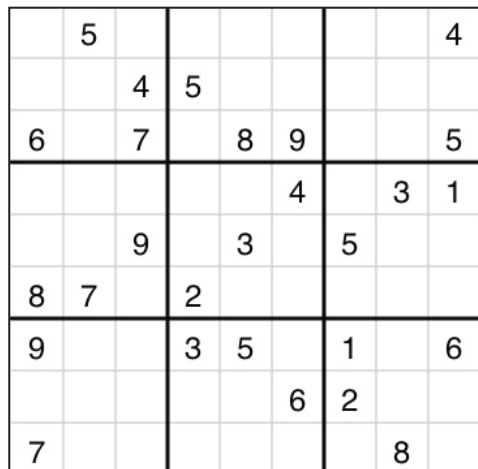
WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.



Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



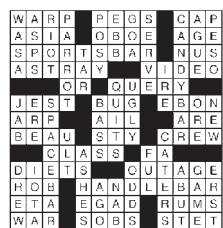
Crossword across

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Vacationing | 22 "Sex for Dummies" writer | 40 Moray, for one |
| 4 Told a tale | 26 Eccentric | 41 Dermatologist's case |
| 8 React in pain | 29 Attention get-ter | 45 Sail support |
| 12 Romanian money | 30 Vast expanse | 48 "A Study in Scarlet" narrator |
| 13 Between jobs | 31 Libertine's feeling | 50 Head light? |
| 14 Competent | 32 Foundation | 51 — and terminer |
| 15 Stevenson's personification of good | 33 Minus | 52 Expert |
| 17 Leave at the altar | 34 Mound stat | 53 Unimprovable place |
| 18 Whine | 35 Monkey suit | 54 Money |
| 19 E.T.'s carrier? | 36 Circumference | 55 Longing |
| 21 Under the weather | 37 Oprah adviser | |
| | 39 Wambaugh or Wapner (Abbr.) | |

Crossword down

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Automaker | 20 Saute | 39 "You Were Meant for Me" singer |
| 2 Spore producer | 23 Addict | 42 Catch sight of |
| 3 Honshu mountain | 24 Criterion | 43 Additional |
| 4 Probable | 25 Scrambled eggs side dish | 44 Any time now |
| 5 Pastoral opus | 26 Coaster | 45 That girl |
| 6 Blueprint addition | 27 Kitten's sound | 46 Cushion |
| 7 Tricked | 28 Now, on a memo | 47 Ginger — |
| 8 Collegian's choice | 29 Whammy | 49 Reuben holder |
| 9 Sapporo sash | 32 Edition sold the night before | |
| 10 The whole enchilada | 33 "Hungaria" composer | |
| 11 Bottom line | 35 Dead heat | |
| 16 Oust | 36 Kid's racer | |
| | 38 Egret's cousin | |

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



8	9	1	7	6	2	4	5	3
7	6	2	4	3	5	9	1	8
3	4	5	9	1	8	6	2	7
9	7	6	5	2	4	3	8	1
5	1	3	6	8	7	2	9	4
4	2	8	3	9	1	7	6	5
1	8	4	2	7	6	5	3	9
2	5	9	1	4	3	8	7	6
6	3	7	8	5	9	1	4	2

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Under 13 min.....Genius | 17-21 min.....Smart |
| 13-17 min.....Scholar | 21-25 min.....Not bad |
| | 25+ min.....Keep practising |

Metro Recipe of the Day



Lemon-Glazed Flounder Fillets

INGREDIENTS:

- 5 large lemons
- 6 large fresh basil leaves
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 4 flounder fillets
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) pepper

SAUCE:

- 1/2 cup (125 ml) reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1 1/2 tsp (7 ml) cornstarch
- 2 tsp (10 ml) sugar

METHOD:

- Roll 1 lemon on countertop to get juices flowing; grate zest from this lemon and squeeze juice. Cut 3 lemons into 12 1/4-in. (0.5 cm) slices. Slice remaining lemon into 8 wedges. Make basil chiffonade: stack basil leaves and roll up tightly. Slice thinly and set aside as garnish. Heat oil in small pot over medium heat. Add garlic and cook until golden, 2 minutes. Whisk in lemon juice and remove from heat.
- Coat grill rack or broiler pan rack with non-stick cooking spray. Preheat grill or broiler to medium. Lightly brush both sides of fish with garlic mixture

and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Place 3 lemon slices on grill or broiler rack and put one flounder fillet on top. Repeat with remaining lemon slices and fish. Grill or broil without turning, until just opaque throughout, 6 minutes. Cook lemon wedges alongside until browned, 2 minutes per side.

3. Meanwhile, blend broth and cornstarch in cup until smooth. Whisk cornstarch mixture, sugar and 1/4 tsp (1 ml) lemon zest into remaining garlic mixture. Boil over medium-high heat and cook until sauce thickens, 1 minute.

4. Transfer fish to plates, lemon slices down. Spoon sauce over fish and sprinkle with basil chiffonade and remaining lemon zest. Garnish with grilled lemon wedges.

SERVES 4

rd.ca



Horoscopes

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You'll bid farewell to a crazy fantasy. People are at ease despite unreliable mechanical objects. Tone down any frivolous behaviour.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Nothing is ever as bad as it seems. A corny guy will be left in the lurch. A neurotic person lets loose in public.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Your mood improves when someone admires you. You might forget about a very sad story. You'll reap what you've sown.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Someone lets fear keep them from talking. Be available for a cheated friend. Pay attention to warnings.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Sincere attention inspires fresh discussions. Someone's illness troubles you. Double check everything that you're told.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A modest man has the guts to swear an oath. Love isn't for those who are unprepared. Don't feel sorry for yourself.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Instability and insecurity are somewhat unnerving. Superior self-discipline helps you fulfill a routine. Fresh projects begin taking shape.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Remain calm in regard to social ambitions. You'll get what you believe in. Long-repressed brilliance finally bursts out.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Precious moments cheer you up. Bizarre events will force you to call friends. Something isn't working, but this will change.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
What you did comes back to bless you. The temperature rises as a flirtation heats up. Infatuation gives some thrills and spills.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A friend has not turned his back on you. Boredom dissipates when you discuss leadership. A manager is very exasperating.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Someone causes mayhem with fiscal changes. Wait until enthusiasm is higher for weekend plans. An encounter with a coward lightens the mood.

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